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THE gateway

February 15th, 2012 ■ Issue No. 22 ■ Volume 102

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

STUDENT FEES

BoG will decide which MNIFs need student approval

April Hudson

STAFF REPORTER • @APRIL_HUDSON

The Board of Governors will now have final say in which mandatory non-instructional fees go to student referendum, following an approved motion proposed by university administration at last Friday's board meeting.

student referendum.

SU Vice-President (External) Farid Iskandar said the Students' Union had intended to propose an amendment to the original 2001 motion that was rescinded during the meeting in order to require referendum for all existing fees, as well as any new fees to come, as the 2001 motion only covered

▪ **“We wanted to put (the amendment) on the board as a motion, and we wanted to debate both of them. But when we went to university governance, they told us we can't have two contradicting motions on the same agenda.”**

FARID ISKANDAR
VP (EXTERNAL), STUDENTS' UNION

According to a motion from 2001, MNIF increases beyond the Consumer Price Index had to be approved by Students' Council or a referendum. Alternatively, the motion brought forward by Provost Carl Amrhein last Friday eliminated those requirements and instead included the establishment of a third budgetary committee dedicated to MNIFs called MBAC.

This committee would include two Students' Union representatives and two Graduate Students' Association representatives on a committee of eight.

Amrhein said during the meeting that the MBAC committee will decide on a case-by-case basis which fees are brought to

MNIF increases.

However, this amendment would have contradicted Amrhein's motion to rescind the 2001 decision altogether.

“We wanted to put that on the board as a motion, and we wanted to debate both of them,” Iskandar said. “But when we went to university governance, they told us we can't have two contradicting motions on the same agenda.”

Amrhein said at the meeting that this new process does not mean there will not be student referendums on MNIFs, but it gives the BoG final say on when to hold a referendum.

PLEASE SEE **BOG** • PAGE 4

News Feature

The Gateway investigates reports of poor living conditions in HUB residence

page 10

MATT HIRJI

TOP OPINION

BoG ruling robs students of rightful input on fee decisions



Alexandria Eldridge
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In what Students' Union President Rory Tighe rightly called a “step backwards” last Friday, the University of Alberta Board of Governors passed a motion to remove a requirement for student referendum on mandatory non-instructional fee increases. This move effectively silences the voice of students when it

comes to fee increases that they ultimately have to pay for.

A bylaw in 2001 previously required that if the BoG wished to increase MNIFs beyond the Consumer Price Index, it would have to be approved by Students' Council or student referendum. This motion has now been rescinded. Instead, the BoG will opt for student consultation through a newly created MNIF budget advisory committee, which will have two student representatives from the Students' Union and two from the Graduate Students' Association on a committee of eight.

Together, this committee will advise the BoG on whether or not a fee needs to be

brought to student referendum or whether it can be implemented without further consultation of the student body.

▪ **This move effectively silences the voice of students.**

SU Vice-President (External) Farid Iskandar said that this committee may not make any decisions by vote, meaning that the student representatives will not actually be able to have any real power, and their concerns could easily be pushed to the side. Regardless of what happens on the committee, their role is

only advisory, and the BoG will essentially be able to do whatever it wants, making the committee entirely unnecessary and useless.

This doesn't mean that there will never be another referendum for an MNIF. But it does make it unlikely, and it certainly takes power away from students by giving the committee, and by extension the BoG, the final say on what students must pay. Rather than the final say coming from a vote of the student population, there's a very real possibility that student voices get completely lost in the shuffle.

PLEASE SEE **MNIFs** • PAGE 17

THE

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colophon

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Academic materials turn to technology

Canadian roundtable organized by SU gathers students and publishers to discuss technology's impact on education

Ravanne Lawday
NEWS STAFF • @RAVIIZAHARKO

University students and professionals in the publishing industry gathered for the Canadian Roundtable on Academic Materials (CRAM) last week to discuss changes in technology and the resulting impact on university education.

Presentations were held on Feb. 9-10 in an online conference set up to discuss new technological advances, along with the strategies that should be taken in the classroom to accommodate new innovations. The event included lectures by representatives from education companies like Pearson Canada, McGraw-Hill Canada and Gale Cengage.

“We don’t want to be defined by the products that we’re selling, but by the experience we give our users.”

MARLENE OLSAVSKY
PEARSON CANADA REPRESENTATIVE

Delegates from the Students' Union and U of A Libraries were also present to discuss the educational and political climate of Canada.

Each day wrapped up with a meeting that involved setting strategies for the future of university education. For many publication companies, this includes vast changes to the way they provide publications to post-secondary schools.

A presentation given by Pearson Canada's representative, Marlene Olsavsky, outlined the company's plan to take advantage of technology's new ability to shape education.

"Technology is allowing us to make our products more flexible and allows us to distribute them in a number of ways," Olsavsky said, citing the company's decision to allow access to their publications on computers and smartphones.

The new technological age saves students the costly fees of buying textbooks, along with offering them a new level of ease, according to Olsavsky. Although this may be less profitable for Pearson, Olsavsky said that students accessing these materials at their own convenience is the company's main priority.

"We don't want to be defined by the products that we're selling, but by the experience we give our users," Olsavsky said.

This was a view shared by multiple education publishing companies. McGraw-Hill Canada representative Jeff MacLean echoed Olsavsky's talk, making note of the company's aim to use technology to ensure eased access to publications for affordable prices.

"We realize that technology allows us to present our material to more students, and allows more interactions," MacLean said. "We want to make sure that, as a company, we're giving you exactly what you need in different formats. There are a lot of different options out there."

Stephen Abram, Gale Cengage's vice-president of strategic partnerships and markets, outlined the different formats in which media

publications can be distributed. Abram cited smartphones, notebooks, and eReaders as some of the many formats that students can now use to access their course material.

"Every different piece of portable technology delivers some sort of new innovation," Abram said. "Some are better to use in the airport, and some are better to use in a classroom. Every gadget has a strength or weakness when using it."

"We're seeing huge shifts in computer and technology skills, and social and learning behaviours attached to those devices."

As well as outlining the changes in the classroom brought on by technology, CRAM focused on adapting this technology to each student.

"It's rare that a user only chooses one device to use, but it's even rarer for a classroom to be uniform in that decision," Abram said.

Emerson Csorba, Students' Union vice-president (academic) and organizer of the event, said he was generally satisfied with the turnout.

"On day one, we saw anywhere from 30 to 50 people participate in the discussions, which is a fair bit," Csorba said. "On day two, the turnout dropped to about 15 people per session, which was to be expected, since the day was Alberta-focused."

"We initiated valuable conversations with some of the largest publishing companies in Canada, recorded speeches from some renowned speakers and came away with a more informed perspective about (important) issues," Csorba added.

streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY Katelyn Hoffart + Alex Migdal



Sarah Spink SCIENCE II
"Heath Ledger. Rest in peace."



Cassidy Stern ENGINEERING IV
"Katy Pery. She's hot."



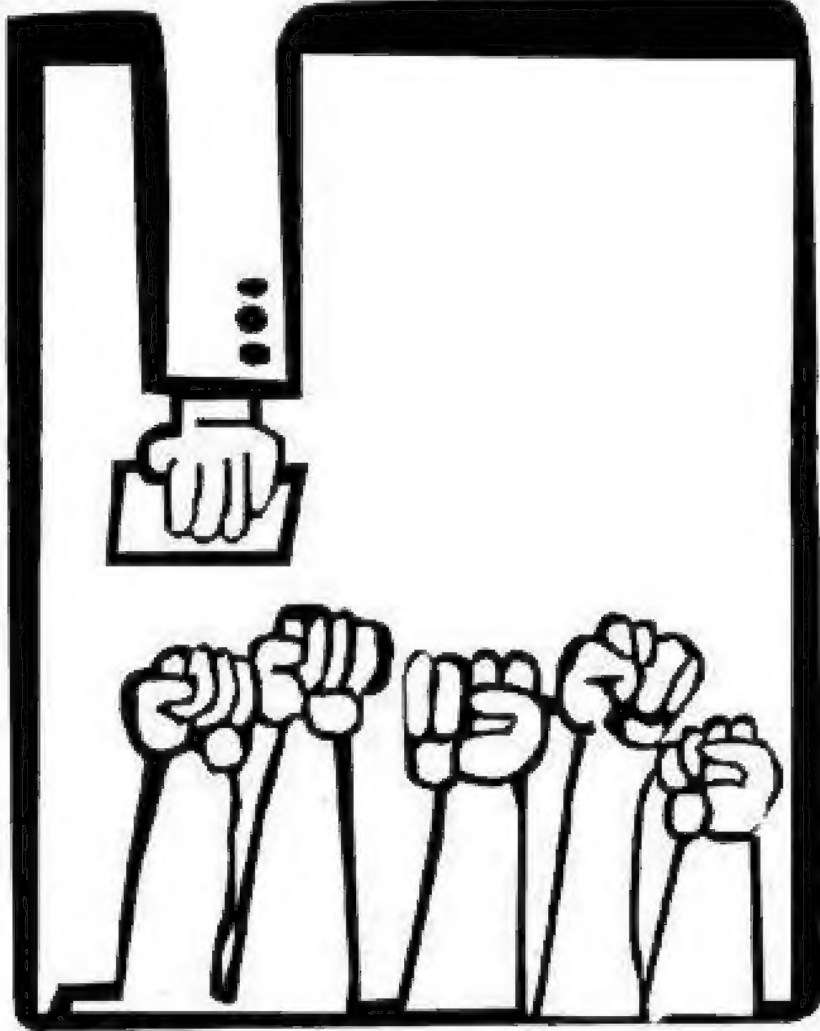
Jack Tuza SCIENCE I
"Scarlett Johansson."



Jonathan Nyan SCIENCE III
"Whitney Houston. She used to be hot."

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SUPPLIED: FLICKR/ERIC CHU

New provincial budget offers funding and stability to U of A

Three-year funding cycle promises two per cent increase per year to operating grant

April Hudson

STAFF REPORTER • @APRIL_HUDSON

It was mostly good news for the University of Alberta last Thursday with the unveiling of the 2012-13 provincial budget, which brings an end to the zero per cent grant increases that Alberta post-secondary institutions have experienced for the past two years.

The annual budget included a two per cent increase to the U of A's operating grant over the next three years.

Despite the government failing to provide the four per cent increase the U of A claims it needs to break even due to inflation, the new budget will still provide some stability for the institution and a relief from the zero percent increase that it was expecting.

"From a post-secondary perspective, I'm pretty pleased with the budget," said Greg Weadick, minister of advanced education and technology. "I know that in our discussions with students, boards, presidents and faculty, (that) they really were asking for the three-year funding model so they would have that stability."

President Indira Samarasekera also commented positively on the budget at last Friday's Board of Governors meeting.

"The (government) made a very clear signal about their support of post-secondary and the level at which they are prepared to provide that funding," she said.

The new budget also includes increases in funding to Alberta Innovates for research, much of which is done in post-secondary institutions.

"This is funding that can directly support activities on our campus and research work, which in turn supports our undergrads, graduate students, and post-docs," Weadick said. "(Institutions) are also pleased with the increases around the research funding, because of course Alberta Innovates is a very close partner with Alberta's post-secondary institutions."

Weadick said another highlight of the new budget is the inclusion of more student financing. Almost \$500 million has been allocated to student loans, grants, and bursaries.

"Right now, when we look across the global budgeting, many jurisdictions are actually reducing funding in post-secondaries, and we thought it was critical to send a message in a very tight fiscal time that we are dedicated and committed to post-secondaries," Weadick said.

On Monday, the Alberta government also announced a number of changes to student aid programs, which Students' Union Vice-President (External) Farid Iskandar said will make the student loan process much easier for students.

fee once you finish your degree."

Iskandar added that this is good news for all students in the Alberta education system, but that it's less positive for people struggling under huge amounts of debt.

"This will increase the amount of money in the system for student loans. More students will be able to access student loans now, which is good for students who are already trying to go through the system, but not good for students who are under a crippling amount of debt," Iskandar said. "More students will see that (\$69 million), but students who are under huge amounts of debt will see less of it."

Despite the province's overhaul on student loans, Iskandar said it may not have the effect the province

"There's a number of students I've talked to that simply couldn't access education because they could not afford it. We're hoping that affordable opportunities for students will be there now."

GREG WEADICK

MINISTER OF ADVANCED EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY

"For Alberta student loans, how much your parents make is not going to matter anymore — it will for Canada student loans, but not for Alberta student loans," Iskandar explained.

"Now, they're not going to dock you if you're working part-time, if you have a summer job, or if your parents make too much money."

The government has also cut its remission program, which had \$69 million in funding. Depending on how much debt a student had accumulated over the course of their degree, a part of that debt could be remitted, but Iskandar said that only three per cent of students ever saw that money.

"Either you got a letter saying you were going to get the remission or not," Iskandar said. "Now, that \$69 million is going to go to graduates upon completion of their degree. For U of A students who have taken out a loan, upon graduation they are going to get \$2,000 back, like a flat

is hoping of drawing in more students, since the changes do not provide an increase to student grants. However, Weadick expressed optimism that Alberta's post-secondary numbers will continue to grow.

"There's a number of students I've talked to that simply couldn't access education because they could not afford it," Weadick said. "We're hoping that affordable opportunities for students will be there now."

Weadick added that student assistance was essential in producing this year's budget, since many of the ideas in it were things the province worked with students on.

"I'm hoping that we're back next year because our enrollments are going up, since we've been successful with Alberta education and helping attract more students into the system," Weadick said.

"The nicest thing to see is my budget going up because more young people are accessing the post-secondary system here."


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SU takes issue with BoG's new MNIF proposal

BOG • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Administration is not opposed to referendum when it makes sense ... Our disagreement with the Students' Union is their proposal that a referendum be mandatory on any new mandatory fee before the administration presents it to the board," Amrhein said.

He cited a governance issue with the SU's proposal, indicating that it doesn't properly reflect the board's supremacy.

The SU began discussions with the university regarding mandatory non-instructional fees in July, a process which was reinforced when the province's Minister of Advanced Education and Technology, Greg Weadick, sent a letter to administration telling them to include a consultation process with students on non-instructional fees.

“The administration’s proposal is actually, in my opinion, a step backwards in adjusting the issue.”

RORY TIGHE
STUDENTS' UNION PRESIDENT

However, Iskandar doesn't feel that consultation alone is adequate in this situation. "I think the consultation process since July proved that, for something like non-instructional fees, consultation does not work," Iskandar said.

"The proposal that administration brought forward during the Board of Governors' meeting was not the status quo — it was worse than the status quo."

During the meeting, Vice-President



HIGHER POWER A majority of 10 board members voted to approve Amrhein's motion at last Friday's BoG meeting. MATT HIRJI

(Finance & Administration) Phyllis Clark gave a presentation on whether or not there should be a student referendum prior to mandatory non-instructional fees, as advocated by the SU.

The presentation stressed that "consent" was not the same as "consultation," and that the

Minister had asked only for a consultation process, which she believes the new MBAC committee will provide.

"We have a very rich set of consultations that have gone into this committee," Clark said. "We believe this is a sound proposal for consultation, and that it gives students

and other stakeholders an adequate, if not enriched chance to talk about this fee."

Students' Union President Rory Tighe argued during the meeting that consultation is not enough for students, especially with concerns that MNIFs are being used to circumvent the tuition cap.

"The administration's proposal is actually, in my opinion, a step backwards in adjusting the issue," Tighe said.

"The proposal we're voting on right now is whether or not to rescind the motion that the board put forward 10 years ago that gave the students a real voice ... (Our proposal) is a framework that accounts for fairness and accountability while maintaining the board's supremacy in making final decisions."

Iskandar said the next step for students is to move the conversation to a provincial level and rekindle talks with the minister.

"We're going to need to go beyond consultation and aim for a regulation on non-instructional fees," Iskandar said, adding that students should have say in the final approval process for MNIFs.

Iskandar added that a provision for student financial assistance given under the 2001 motion was also rescinded.

"The other part (of the motion) was if the revenue made by the CoSSS fee exceeded the cost of the service by 10 per cent, that money will go into student financial assistance," Iskandar added. "That motion was rescinded."

"I don't think (their decision) was necessary, and I think it makes it less transparent for administration to tell students what fees they're paying," Iskandar said. "Students need to be concerned about the fact that their costs could be going up, and the ministry is not protecting them from this loophole."

University administration was unavailable for comment on the approved motion as of press time.

-With files from Alex Migdal

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SUPPLIED

U of A draws fire for honouring Nestlé chairman with degree

April Hudson

STAFF REPORTER • @APRIL_HUDSON

The University of Alberta has sparked controversy with its recent decision to award three individuals honorary degrees for their groundbreaking work in the field of water research.

Among the three awarded is Peter Brabeck-Letmathe, CEO of the Nestlé corporation, a company which has played a controversial role in global resource management.

"The Honorary Degrees Committee elected to confer an honorary degree on Peter Brabeck-Letmathe, along with Steve Hrudehy and Sunita Narain," wrote university President Indira Samarasekera in the U of A's blog *Colloquy* last Thursday.

"All three recipients have provided extraordinary leadership in sparking dialogue, conducting research, and pushing for major policy change in addressing critical challenges relating to the management and safety of water."

Samarasekera added that Brabeck-Letmathe was chosen in recognition of his growing role as a global leader in water resource management.

"His recent advocacy and leadership calling attention to water issues worldwide is challenging industry and government to take quick action," she wrote.

Brabeck-Letmathe leads a worldwide project on water resources as a member of the Foundational Board of the World Economic Forum, and has co-authored a report on charting the future of water. He has also used his position as chairman of Nestlé to engage government and business leaders on issues surrounding water resource scarcity and security.

His company was awarded the Stockholm Industry Water Award in August 2011.

"The company received this award for implementation of water management strategies put in place that include providing expert training for 300,000 farmers, resulting in a 30 percent reduction in water

use and greater crop yields," Samarasekera wrote.

However, because of his ties to Nestlé, Brabeck-Letmathe has come under fire in the past for his company's advocacy of water privatization, as well as its methods of marketing products to third-world countries.

"It's not unusual for universities to occasionally run into some controversy concerning some speakers on campus," said Debra Pozega Osburn, vice-president (university relations).

"That doesn't mean we seek out controversy, but we are a community of diverse people, voices, and opinions. You'll never see the day everybody at the university agrees on the same thing."

Honorary degree recipients are chosen by the university Senate's Honorary Degree Committee, and Pozega Osburn said that in the search for honorary degree candidates, the university typically looks for an individual with a certain level of achievement, accomplishment, or impact.

Various U of A professors have voiced their complaints to the *Edmonton Journal*, as well as on the U of A's blog and on social media outlets.

David Zakus, director of the global health centre in the U of A medical school, told the *Journal* he's concerned the award could tarnish the U of A's international reputation.

"Everyone is aware of the role Nestlé plays in privatization of water and baby formula, and it will reflect back on the university," he told the *Journal*.

"The reason any candidate will be chosen for a degree typically has to do with their level of impact in the world," Pozega Osburn said.

"In this case, we have one person who was chosen for his academic accomplishments, and that is Steven Hrudehy. We have Sunita Narain, who works for a non-governmental organization, and then we have Peter Brabeck-Letmathe, who spe-

cifically was chosen for his own achievements in a field in which he as an individual is expert in."

Since Brabeck-Letmathe is the CEO of Nestlé, Pozega Osburn said the university has received criticism based on concerns about Nestlé as a corporation instead of Brabeck-Letmathe as an individual.

"That's one side of the criticism we're getting, and I think that's the most common one," Pozega Osburn said. "Again, we're giving the degree to Mr. Brabeck-Letmathe, not to the corporation. But you can understand how people can look at one and connect him with the other because of his role in the organization."

She added that it is not unheard of for a university as large as the U of A to experience some controversy in relations to honorary degree recipients.

"Whether or not you agree with the choice is just going to depend on what your opinions are on issues related to water and water distribution," Pozega Osburn said. "In some cases, this seems to be people's opinions on Nestlé, and the way they've operated on the global stage, and in third world countries."

Pozega Osburn also dismissed fears that the choice to award Brabeck-Letmathe may harm the U of A's international reputation.

"International reputations for post-secondary institutions are built over a long period of time," Pozega Osburn said. "And over time, the U of A's reputation has been built very solidly on the contributions of our faculty, our staff, our students and our alumni in the global markets where they live and work."

"He is a global thinker, and he is having an impact in this area," Pozega Osburn added.

"Certainly, not everybody agrees with what he says. But the important thing is, he's having an impact and he's changing the conversation. ... It's clear that he has achieved a great deal."

campus crimebeat

COMPILED BY Alex Migdal

CUT AND RUN

University of Alberta Protective Services (UAPS) and Edmonton Police Service (EPS) were called to attend HUB to investigate a robbery on Feb. 9. A male brandished a knife, took the complainant's wallet and fled the area. The area was extensively searched, but the suspect was not found.

PARTY IN HUB

On Feb. 10, UAPS received a complaint from a HUB resident of a group of individuals causing a disturbance in HUB Mall. UAPS attended the area and identified the parties involved. One male had previously trespassed U of A onto property. Edmonton Police Service was contacted for outstanding warrants.

SHADY LADY

On Feb. 11, UAPS observed a female acting suspiciously in HUB Mall. The female was identified as being unaffiliated with the U of A, and was directed off campus.

LOOP LURKER

UAPS observed an intoxicated male in the university bus loop on Feb. 13. A male was identified as non-affiliated with the U of A. Officers also discovered the male had previously trespassed onto University of Alberta property. EPS was contacted for outstanding warrants.

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**Wednesday
February 29**

TENTATIVE AGENDA

- 1) Introductory remarks
- 2) Election of two volunteer representatives to represent volunteers for the Editor-in-Chief hiring board on March 3.
- 3) Election of three volunteer representatives to represent volunteers for the Line Editor hiring board on March 10.
- 4) Refreshments

All members (ie. those who have made five or more contributions in the last 365 days before March 29 and have opted in with a Gateway editor) are asked to attend. Those who qualify and would like to become a member, please contact the Editor-in-Chief at eic@gateway.ualberta.ca. This meeting is also open to the public.

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NDP leaders speak out at U of A debate

Atta Almasi
NEWS STAFF

Several leaders from the New Democratic Party gathered at the Telus Centre last Thursday to debate a range of issues, including the environment, agriculture and post-secondary education.

The debate was hosted by the New Democratic Youth of Alberta and the U of A's own NDP club, and attracted a sizeable crowd at the Telus Centre. Featured in the debate were three of the eight candidates vying for leadership of the NDP: Brian Topp, Paul Dewar and Nathan Cullen.

Cullen took issue with the fact that less than 50 per cent of the leadership field was present at the Telus Centre.

"I'm disappointed that there's three of us here tonight," the B.C. politician said, arguing that Alberta requires the progressive people to have a voice.

A recurring theme throughout the debate was the environment, including resource management

fighting climate change, and the promotion of clean energy initiatives.

"Canada's failure to address climate change has brought disgrace to our country, and we need to address that," Topp said.

Achieving a strong agriculture industry through food sovereignty and restoring the Wheat Board were also discussed.

"(The Harper government) killed the Wheat Board after 75 years of successful marketing for grain and wheat farmers," Cullen said.

"As soon as we kick the Harper government out, we're restoring the Wheat Board," Topp said.

The three candidates also addressed the affordability and accessibility of post-secondary education in Canada.

"We're turning back to a notion, two or three generations ago, that only the 'haves' will get through the door. Only those people will have chance to move up through life and improve themselves — we have to reverse that trend," Cullen said.

Topp, using his two teenage sons as an example, expressed his dislike for an education system that is "designed to have (students) graduate from university with mortgages on their backs and not get the house."

But it was Dewar who had the boldest solution out of the three. He proposed to give young people an opportunity to volunteer for a year, either in Canada or abroad, and offer them a year's worth of tuition in return.

All the candidates present agreed that education is a right, and argued for a drastic cut to the financial and social barriers that prevent some from obtaining a post-secondary education.

"I'm tired of living in a socialist state for the top one percent," Topp said in his concluding remarks.

Members of the Youth NDP and Campus NDP asked six pre-approved questions following the debate.

The NDP leadership candidates will convene in Toronto late next month to choose Jack Layton's successor.

Former Liberal leader sheds light on new book about Alberta budget

Zaineb Hussein
NEWS STAFF

Former Liberal leader Kevin Taft spoke to a University of Alberta audience last week about his new book *Follow The Money*, which attempts to figure out why the province of Alberta — the owners of the largest petroleum reserves in the western hemisphere — are running deficits and draining Alberta's heritage fund.

There are 51,900 barrels of oil per Albertan, and with each barrel currently worth \$80, Alberta remains one of the most prosperous provinces in Canada. It was this tidbit that inspired Taft to delve into Alberta's wealth, and ultimately write his new book.

Taft believes the media has fed misguided information to the public about budget cuts and layoffs in sectors like education and health care.

"We're told over and over that Alberta is a really rich place," Taft said. "Yet, we have a government that's running deficits, we're cutting back on services, raising tuition fees and laying off teachers."

With the assistance of economists Mel McMillan and Junaid Jahangir, Taft and his team dug through Statistic Canada records from 1980-2009 to analyze the distribution of wealth in Alberta in the sectors of health care, education, public sector wages and Alberta savings.

By accounting for inflation and population growth, Taft found that

the amount of wealth invested into public services is not as hefty a number as the government would like us to believe.

The health care sector has only experienced a 24 per cent change since the early '90s. Of all the sectors, Taft said the most distressing one is Alberta's heritage fund, which is worth less today than in the year it was founded.

"Constantly, interest groups and governments play with numbers by not accounting for inflation of the population," Taft said.

Alberta's colossal wealth is not being distributed evenly, and public services are not receiving anywhere near the optimal amount, according to Taft. Even though Canadian law dictates that the provincial government is obligated to distribute the wealth of oil and gas to Albertans through public services, Taft's study proves that this is not the case.

"The economy has grown 76 per cent, so I thought of it in terms of pizza. From 1989 to 2008, Alberta's economy has grown from a medium pizza to an XL," Taft explained.

"Public services in 1989 were getting two slices of pizza. Twenty years later, we're still only getting two slices, and public savings are actually getting a smaller piece than 20 years ago."

Corporate profits have risen 300 per cent since the early '90s due the oilsands, making up 22 per cent of Alberta's economy, while American corporations only make up 11 per cent of the US economy.



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2012 REFERENDUM QUESTIONS

2012 STUDENTS' UNION ELECTIONS

Do you support the creation of a Spring/Summer Universal Bus Pass (U-Pass) subject to the following conditions?

- 1) The U-Pass would provide unlimited usage of regular transit service through Edmonton Transit System, St. Albert Transit, and Strathcona County Transit during the Spring and Summer terms only to undergraduate students enrolled in at least one course for credit during the Spring or Summer terms within the participating municipalities' service area.
- 2) The cost of the U-Pass to each student would be mandatory to any student enrolled in at least one Spring or Summer course and would be equal to the cost of the previous Fall or Winter term U-Pass.
- 3) The Spring/Summer U-Pass program would begin in 2013.
- 4) The following Spring/Summer students may opt-out of the U-Pass:
 - a) Student enrolled in work-experience, co-op, or a practicum outside of the participating municipalities' service area for a majority of the four-month service period;
 - b) Students unable to make use of ordinary transit services by reason of disability; and
 - c) Students employed by Edmonton Transit System, St. Albert Transit, or Strathcona County Transit.
- 5) Students enrolled at Augustana or a study abroad program are exempt from the U-Pass.
- 6) The Students' Union shall be authorized to enter into the necessary contractual agreements with participating municipalities and the University of Alberta, contingent upon the inclusion of acceptable transparency and accountability provisions.
- 7) The U-Pass would expire upon the passing of a referendum to that effect, or the Students' Union deciding that it can no longer adhere to any of (1) through (6).

Do you support the creation of a dedicated fee to fund renovations to Students' Union facilities, subject to the following provisions?

- 1) The goals of the renovations shall be to:
 - a) minimize the environmental footprint of SU operations;
 - b) increase and improve the student services and club space;
 - c) create more meeting rooms for student groups; and
 - d) increase study, relaxation, and social space.
- 2) The fee would be assessed in each term to undergraduate students enrolled in at least one course for credit, subject to the following conditions:
 - a) The fee shall be \$9 per term in Fall and Winter Terms;
 - b) The fee shall be \$4.50 per term in Spring and Summer Terms;
 - c) The fee shall be optional for students that are registered only in courses designated as off-campus and students that are registered only in courses at Augustana campus;
 - d) The fee shall not be assessed until a Design Development Report is approved by Students' Council; and
 - e) Undergraduate students would be unable to alter or rescind the fee as long as any debt incurred for renovations remains outstanding.
- 3) Upon the full repayment of all debt for renovations described in (1), Students' Council shall be empowered to cease collection of the fee. Should this not occur, fee revenues would be placed in a dedicated reserve to be spent only on major Students' Union renovations.

Registration of members for both "Yes" and "No" sides will take place in

3-06 SUB at 6pm, Friday, February 17.

All undergraduate members are invited to register as a member of a side.



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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: JULIANNA DAMER

Health myths challenged in new book by U of A professor

Katelyn Hoffart
NEWS STAFF • @KATELYNHOFFART

A U of A professor has released a new book debunking current health myths, hoping to clear the air on what it really takes to achieve a healthy lifestyle.

The Cure for Everything! Untangling the Twisted Messages About Health, Fitness and Happiness digs deep into the perceptions that some people have about health, many of which are misleading, according to Tim Caulfield.

Caulfield found that many of the messages being carried over from businesses and health sectors to the public overemphasize the benefits of healthfads, based on factors such as a gain in profit.

"So many of the things we hear about sciences or health get twisted in one way or another. They get twisted by corporations and by ideological agendas, and they also get twisted in a way by our own perceptions," Caulfield said.

Messages in the fitness industry are often overly focused on esthetics — looking good and getting those "sexy abs," said Caulfield.

"That really is an unhealthy and unattainable image for most of us,

so it's basically dooming people to failure. I think the message should be that you work out because you'll feel better, because you'll be healthier."

Caulfield conducted his research over the course of a year, helped by nearly two decades of experience in health law.

"I did traditional scholarship in this area looking at all the available evidence, and luckily given the area that I work in, I knew where to look," Caulfield explained.

"I had a lot of close contacts. I looked at available studies. In addition to that, I interviewed people all over the world."

Another important aspect of Caulfield's research was to personalize it by placing himself in the context of the areas he wanted to focus on. This included testing out diets, work-out routines, homeopathic remedies, and even getting a gene test.

One of the points Caulfield touches on is the hype on genetic testing. Using this information for the purpose of prevention or personalization of your lifestyle in relation to health is an issue, he says.

He makes the case that research has not yet uncovered genes that provide highly

predictive information, and what people do with their results can be problematic. Caulfield also points out how eating whatever you want and trying to simply burn it off with exercise is not an effective method.

Caulfield ate smaller balanced meals, along with cutting out all junk food during his journey, making sure to be mindful of everything he ate.

"Some food on campus might not be ideal," Caulfield said. "You do have to strive to make sure that you have healthy options ready, so that if you do get hungry, you don't succumb to that urge to for a bag of potato chips — or pop, which is evil."

When it comes to exercise, Caulfield outlines fitness routines in his book that are effective for optimizing hard work in short time periods, something that even the busiest student can do.

Caulfield's main message to U of A students is to stay active and take advantage of the facilities at their disposal.

"We're all so busy, and you know what? Students are just going to get busier. This is probably the most free time you're going to have, so you've got to keep those healthy habits."

Reading comprehension proves to be difficult for some university students

Piper Whelan
NEWS WRITER

Have you ever read a chapter from your textbook and been unable to remember a single thing? A U of A researcher may be able to tell you why.

George Georgiou, director of the U of A's Reading Research Lab, has identified cognitive development issues that cause some students to struggle with reading comprehension — though their ability to read may be perfectly fine.

By studying a sample of roughly 500 U of A students, Georgiou found that a small percentage had an undetected reading difficulty known as a specific reading comprehension deficit. This deficit occurs when working memory doesn't allow for full comprehension of a text, even if a student can easily read it.

"These students do not have a problem reading accurately and fluently. The problem is how to understand what they are reading," Georgiou said.

Georgiou began the study in 2011 to see if the estimated rate of three to five per cent who deal with this reading comprehension deficit could be found in a sample of university students.

The other goal of the study was to

identify the causes of this reading difficulty. Georgiou noted that when it comes to research on reading difficulties, experts tend to focus on the early years of education.

"We know much more about reading difficulties in younger children, and not as much about reading difficulties in older students."

After receiving a Cornerstone Grant from the Killam Research Fund, which supports innovations that advance scholarship, Georgiou and colleague J.P. Das tested students in large classes on two adult-appropriate reading comprehension tasks.

They contacted the students who showed signs of a reading comprehension difficulty to come in to the Reading Research Lab for further testing on other areas of reading ability, before focusing on comprehension.

About three to five per cent of the total sample of students showed signs of this specific reading comprehension deficit, matching up with the rate going into the study.

The cause of this deficit, Georgiou said, lies in cognitive development. These students lack the working memory to process, store and understand what they read, particularly if the text is long and contains complex ideas.

"We administered measures of

working memory, simultaneous and successive processing, planning and attention," Georgiou explained. "Out of all these measures, working memory stands out as a very important factor."

The reason this deficit often goes undetected is that strategies to identify reading difficulties prior to post-secondary education deal mostly with areas of reading ability rather than comprehension.

The study is ongoing, and the next step is to help the students in the study deal with their reading comprehension difficulty through a number of simple strategies.

"There are no easy solutions, but there are some steps we can take to help them improve their reading comprehension," Georgiou said. "You will see that when some of these students were completing these comprehension tasks, they would highlight the whole text, which is a very poor strategy."

Georgiou suggests tackling the text paragraph by paragraph, finding the main ideas before moving on to the next, and making connections between paragraphs.

Creating a concept map of the text's main themes and making summarizing notes in the margins are also useful strategies for working to understand what you're reading.

Smart-e-Pants offer clever solution to ulcers, bed sores

Matt Hirji
NEWS STAFF • @MATTHIRJI

A new technology developed by U of A researchers may hold the key to preventing bedsores in patients with mobility issues.

Smart-e-Pants may have a playful name, but the electronic shorts could help eliminate dangerous pressure ulcers or bedsores by stimulating muscles that go unused by people who are bedridden or forced to use a wheelchair.

"Pressure ulcers are very common and can be very deadly," explained Ming Chan, a U of A researcher involved in the development of Smart-e-Pants.

"There is one particular form of pressure ulcer that is very bad. It's the type that starts very deep in the buttock area right against the bone. It's in those muscles where the breakdown is most susceptible, because the muscle doesn't allow any cushioning and blood supply doesn't get to that area very well.

"That is really where the Smart-e-Pants idea comes in," Chan said. "They have electro-stimulation attached to the pants, and that stimulator is able to activate the muscles and keep blood circulation up in the buttocks area."

Pressure ulcers are a common problem in patients with spinal cord injuries. About 80 per cent of people who rely on wheelchairs for mobility will develop pressure ulcers in their lifetime — a problem that could require surgery or even result in death.

According to Chang, current treatments for bedsores may not be most effective solutions.

His team of researchers recently discovered that the cause of



PULSATING PANTS Ming Chan is involved in the development of Smart-e-Pants. MATT HIRJI

pressure ulcers may lie in a lack of oxygen being supplied to unused muscles, rather than just constant pressure to the afflicted area as previously thought. To apply this new understanding, the Smart-e-Pants technology was born.

By placing electrodes on areas around the buttocks and holding them in place with form-fitted shorts, Smart-e-Pants release electronic impulses for 10 seconds every 10 minutes to activate muscles in the vulnerable area.

According to research conducted by Chang, this stimulation increases oxygen levels and blood supply, while dramatically decreasing the risk of bedsores.

"Attempts to relieve pressure ulcers have been made for decades, but this is quite a major departure from the traditional methods of solving this issue," Chang said.

In the past, solutions have involved placing a cushion under the buttocks to relieve pressure, or turning the patient over every few hours, said Chang.

"No other groups have really done it, and we think it's a more active way to get the muscles to work again in cases where they are not being used."

According to Chang, the Smart-e-Pants may also have some additional benefits beyond eliminating pressure ulcers. Electro-stimulation could even help paralyzed people move again.

"Since a paralyzed person's muscles are inactive," Chang said, "in many cases if you keep the muscles active on a regular basis, they could become stronger and more responsive to physiotherapy treatments that may allow paralyzed people to walk again in the future."

Groundbreaking imaging technique allows for faster bitumen extraction

Ryan Bromsgrove
OPINION EDITOR • @RYAWESOME

A new imaging technique in use at the University of Alberta may lead to faster identification of minerals in drill samples, which could improve extraction of bitumen from the oilsands and assist in reclaiming former tailings ponds.

Professor Benoit Rivard is working with mechanical engineer Mike Lipsett to test and adapt a device that measures the content of drill samples by examining the amount of reflected light they give off.

"Geologists and engineers try to extract as much information as they can from these drill cores to do an assessment of their properties — in the case of the oilsands operations, to figure out where they're going to mine, to figure out what the reserves (of oil) are," Rivard explained.

The lab contains two different machines to maximize identification of a variety of minerals, including bitumen, quartz, and clay — important because of the complications it presents to the oil extraction process.

"We can look at the bitumen abundance in these cores and get a sense of how it's variable. We can see the signature of quartz, we can see the signature of clay as a group," Rivard said.

"All of this is useful because the clay tends to reside in the sandy layers (and) is detrimental to the

extraction of the oil ... So if we're able to detect the presence of the clay, that would be useful. And right now, qualitatively, we can see the clay."

The mechanism by which these machines can be used to detect certain minerals is examination of drill samples under a wide range of wavelengths.

Depending on samples' interaction with the light, researchers can make conclusions about the mineral content of the samples.

"In the area of field data collection, it could be a real game-changer for people who are trying to make good decisions with not a lot of time."

BOENOIT RIVARD
U OF A PROFESSOR

"These cameras look at many regions of the spectrum, about a thousand different regions. We're looking at a thousand colours, if you wish. The core would be translated automatically on this table and passed in front of the cameras and the light sources, and we measure the intensity of the light that's reflected."

The result is an image that contains detailed information of the reflectance and absorption of light at these different wavelengths in every

pixel, obtained in minutes.

The interpretation of all the data contained in the image is a challenge in itself, but Rivard's team is optimistic this method will result in a quick and quantitative means of identifying minerals in drill samples.

"In the area of field data collection, it could be a real game-changer for people who are trying to make good decisions with not a lot of time," Lipsett said.

One application that Lipsett is working on is the use of rovers that could drive out over tailings pond land that is too difficult for humans to access directly.

Such land requires time to densify enough for the reclamation process to progress, as it starts off as material comparable to quicksand. Solving such problems is a long process that begins in the lab, but ends with innovative applications.

"We've been collaborating for the last few years, and we've been working with a number of students," Lipsett said. "(The work) ranges from some of the very basic investigations around how some of the different properties of the samples show up in the spectra, as well as how these would systems actually be used, all the way up to the robotics solutions that could be part of the future."

"This kind of technology development — the combination of science and engineering research — is really important."



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During the three months that she lived in HUB last year, Monica Appleby rarely went without wearing slippers in her residence. It wasn't by choice — the hair tangled in the stained carpet and the layer of grime on the steps of her stairs forced her to cover her feet.

It was during the same period that Melodie Champagne Laplante was asleep in her room in HUB one night, only to be awoken by a maid who had burst in, confused about which parts of the unit she was supposed to clean. Although Champagne Laplante asked the maid to leave, the maid insisted she needed to finish cleaning the unit.

Several months later, roommates Lana Mattice and Caitlyn Klingspohn were eager to move into their new HUB residence at the start of the 2011 fall term. However, when they walked into their unit, they were faced with an unsightly living space. A strange layer of grease coated parts of the unit. The cupboards appeared to be moulding. The stove was falling apart. The thermostat was stuck on high.

These University of Alberta students have all shared the unique experience of living in HUB Mall, a combined student residence and shopping mall on campus that

Mattice and Klingspohn requested a transfer to a two-bedroom unit in December, along with compensation for rent. Residences Services agreed to the transfer them to East Campus Village, but denied their request for compensation.

In an email obtained by *The Gateway*, a Residence Services representative explained that compensating for rent is not in line with university policy. They also acknowledged that the maintenance team had failed to fix the roommates' stove for several months, and apologized for the "comedy of errors" caused by an inexperienced pest control technician, who had used the wrong spray the entire time.

Third-year student Champagne Laplante says her main issue with living in HUB is the unexpected invasions of privacy brought on by constant inspections of units.

According to Champagne Laplante, 24-hour notices are not obeyed by inspection staff, which are often made up of students acting on behalf of HUB administration. If an inspector deems a room unsatisfactory when a tenant moves in or out, a string of inspections follow suit. HUB administration charges residents \$30 per hour per cleaner for a cleaning service if a unit fails an inspection.

Champagne Laplante claims that she's been unfairly charged the fee on several occasions, which she has repeatedly appealed. However, she says her appeals have generally been disregarded by Residence Services.

"If I try to send an appeal, it's really obvious from their emails that they

respond promptly.

"Generally speaking, if occupancy is an indicator of satisfaction, HUB is a very popular place for students to live," Dawson adds. "It appears that the majority of students return year after year and enjoy living in that environment."

But Champagne Laplante says the only reason she's lived in HUB for three years is because it's hard to find a unit that costs \$400 a month including utilities. Still, she notes the monthly cost is an exorbitant amount, considering that her residence is "old and broken down."

"In general, it's almost a campus joke," she says. "We hear all the time about how HUB is a terrible place to live. That's got to come from somewhere. I've heard a lot of horror stories living here."

Fourth-year student Richard Zhao, president of the HUB Community Association, says he personally hasn't had any troubles living in HUB for the past four years. Still, he acknowledges that concerns have been raised in regards to cleanliness and pest infestations, although he says the language barrier among residents can often pose a problem in communicating those issues to administration.

"A lot of our residents don't speak English properly, so we try to facilitate dialogue between our residences and staff members from Residence Services," Zhao says.

Third-year student Monica Appleby doesn't believe that HUB units are accurately depicted by Residence Services. When she moved into her unit, she was taken aback by the

Reality in Residence

Students living in HUB Mall report squalid living conditions and unresponsive residence administration

written by Alex Migdal
photos by Matt Hirji



houses approximately 838 students. The residences offer one, two or four-bedroom apartments, along with unfurnished studios, in a mall that offers direct pedway access to various campus buildings, the LRT station and the library.

But behind the brightly coloured windows that span the mall's one-kilometre length is a decidedly different picture. Alleged unsanitary living conditions and a slew of issues with Residence Services have left many students dissatisfied with their experiences in HUB.

For roommates Mattice and Klingspohn, their troubles started almost immediately when they were faced with an infestation of pharaoh ants in their unit. The roommates lost more than \$100 in groceries during the pests' initial attack. Photos obtained by *The Gateway* show the ants crawling on the lid of a milk carton and floating in a bowl of cereal.

"There was an instance where there was a non-stop trail of ants walking through the sink and going down by the drain," Mattice recalls. "I wondered what would happen if I blocked off their path. I put a noodle in front of them, and a massive pile just got stuck in that spot."

Enlisting the help of a pest control company did little to remedy the issue. After months of dealing with multiple spray sessions, which involved the two girls packing up all of their belongings and waiting three days before unpacking, it was discovered that their kitchen was actually rotting, and that the ants were living in the wood itself.

don't even read the appeals. It's hard to quantify who exactly in the chain is not exactly paying attention."

Similarly to Mattice and Klingspohn, who lived in a unit with a thermostat broken on high, Champagne Laplante claims the units are borderline "tropical."

She also points out that some of the cleanliness problems are due to careless roommates.

"I can't blame that on the administration," she says. "I definitely feel like my roommates who are here just for one semester and don't really feel at home here don't bother cleaning, and it just ends up being a disaster."

Tobie Smith, a communications officer for U of A facilities and operations, echoes that claim, noting that it's a "two-way street" between students and residence administration.

"The maintenance of that building — we can do as much as we can do. If students are not meeting us halfway and keeping their suites clean or respecting the facility, it takes a bit of a beating."

Doug Dawson, executive director of Ancillary Services, says he's well aware of student concerns, particularly the pest infestations, which he points out have caused an exponential increase in pest control costs.

When asked about complaints of lengthy waiting times for maintenance requests, Dawson says that response times are tracked very closely.

"Do things fall through the crack? Sure they do. But when we're notified of issues promptly, we try to

lowly conditions, including the state of her oven.

"The oven looked like a cave because of all of the stuff that was caked on inside," Appleby says, adding that it barely worked during her stay. "We used that oven once and we could taste six years worth of food."

But Appleby says the worst part of the apartment was her bathroom. The ceiling was peeling away, and the shower doors were frosted with grime. The tracks in which the doors slid were also caked with black and brown matter, which she says revealed a lack of inspection on the part of Residence Services.

Dawson, however, believes the conditions of the units are accurately portrayed. "I think we're as transparent and open as we can be about all the products that we offer," he says. "I don't think we're promoting the Four Seasons."

According to the 2011-12 HUB resident survey, nearly 80 per cent of residents surveyed indicated they had filed a maintenance request in the past year for pest control, appliance fixes, room temperature and other problems. It's issues like these that Mattice says students should expect to face when moving in.

"People really need to know what they're getting into when they agree to live on campus, especially in HUB," Mattice says.

"Honestly, my best advice would be to try to find something else," Appleby cautions. "If someone was dead set on HUB, I would warn them to prepare for a lack of sanitary conditions."

Opinion

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Volunteer

Opinion meetings Wednesdays at 5 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Provincial budget not perfect, but shows promise

AFTER THREE LONG YEARS OF AN OPERATING FUNDING FREEZE, the provincial government is finally turning its attention back to helping pay for our post-secondary institutions. While the two per cent increases for each of the next three years are not the four per cent the university was hoping for, this is definitely still relieving news.

What's arguably most important is reverting to a three-year funding cycle, something that President Indira Samarasekera had been advocating for. The funding freeze of the last few years was something the university was informed about on an annual basis by the provincial government, which severely hampered the university's ability to plan long-term. Frozen funding creates a budget gap when taking the consumer price index into account, and coupling in uncertainty as to what the next year would bring, the university had a lot of legitimate problems to deal with.

And with CPI rising above 2.3 per cent last year, the two per cent increases still won't be enough to close the funding gap. Regardless, the gap should be a lot smaller than it has been, and we're now able to plan ahead a little without fear of being abandoned year-to-year.

What this should mean in practice is a lot less bad news about staff being laid off and mandatory non-instructional fees of dubious purpose being instated. In fact, if we agree the argument for the CoSSS fee's implementation two years ago was a measure to cover the deficit, with smaller deficits we should shortly be seeing at least a modest decrease to the CoSSS fee — contrary to what last Friday's Board of Governors meeting hinted at when they rescinded the requirement that MNIF increases beyond CPI go to Students' Council or referendum. In the context of the 2012 budget, that step seems especially shameless.

At the very least, given the three-year funding cycle that we're now working with, students should be told about the future of the CoSSS fee as soon as possible. If the government can extend the courtesy of three years of notice to the university, then the university should extend the same three-year notice to students regarding their contribution to funding the budget gap. There's no reason why we can't be told how the CoSSS fee will pan out in the near future — and we should insist that it be either phased out or incrementally reduced to a more reasonable amount.

The university must also make sure support staff whose jobs are in peril know what will happen to them. Given this new degree of certainty, those staff members who have been living the last several months in fear for their jobs deserve to have their minds at peace — tell them whether they can stay or will be cut.

And despite the deserved commendation for the administration getting us this far, administrative salaries must not continue their increase. You don't make it halfway through a race, declare yourself a winner and expect to reap the rewards right away. Two per cent increases are significantly lower than the needed four per cent. If we're able to keep these increases coming — critically, if we can at least push them past CPI — then there's justification, but not a moment before.

Samarasekera said that "quiet advocacy does work," and she's been proven right to an extent. We got to where we are now not because of rowdy protests, but consistent lobbying. It's not as exciting as waving signs and being confrontational, but this first scrap of good news need not be the last. This is Alison Redford's first budget, and she's shown she's willing to recognize the needs of our post-secondary institutions.

Regardless of how nice it may or may not be to throw the Tories out in the next provincial election, the likelihood is that Redford's going to be around for a while. Again, the post-secondary allocations in this budget are not perfect, but Redford is at least receptive to our concerns. Continued, consistent lobbying is the answer to the funding problem, and it's starting to work. The future is looking a lot more promising than it had been. The university needs to build on this modest victory to ensure it passes along its security to the rest of campus.

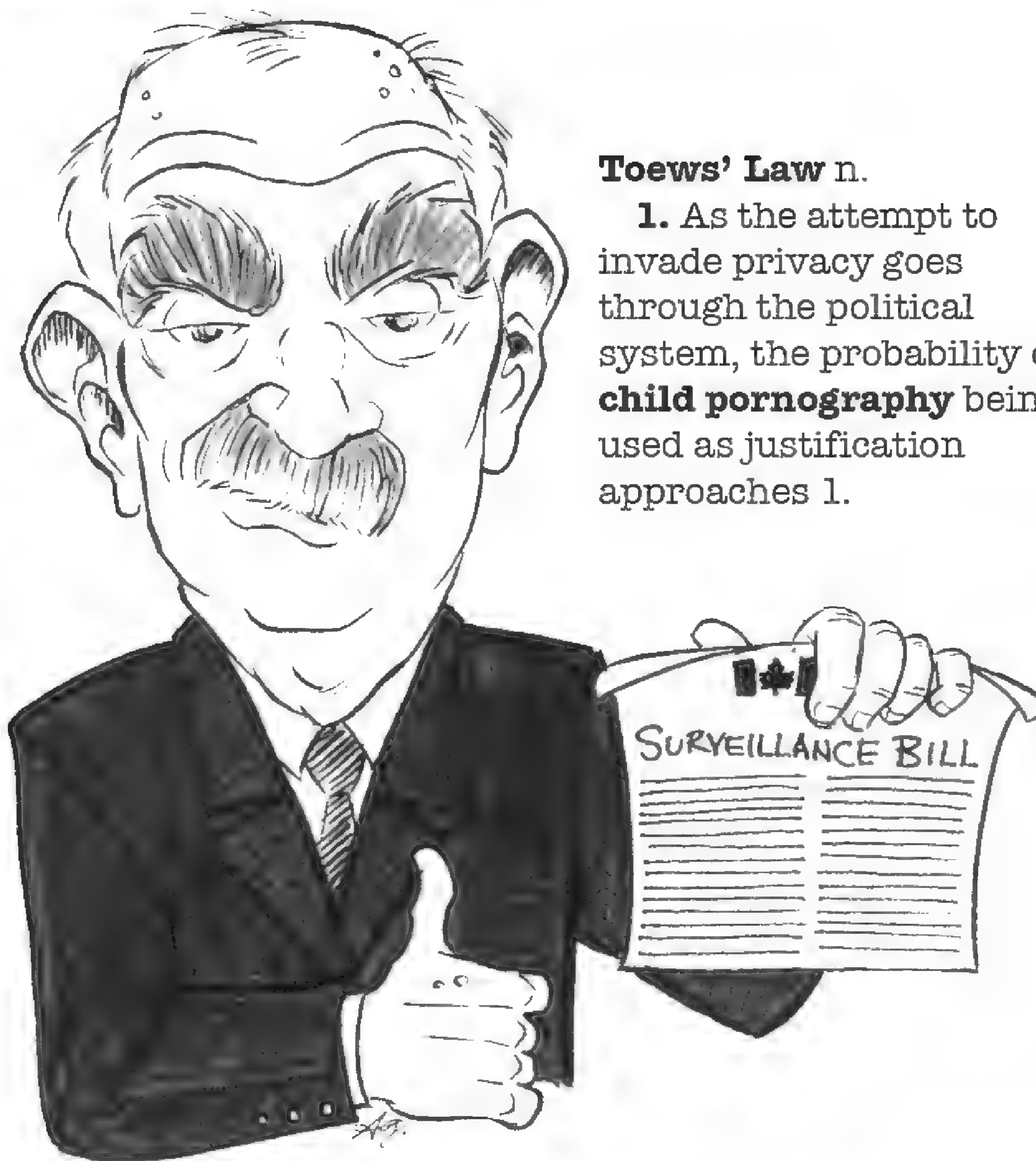
Ryan Bromsgrove
OPINION EDITOR

EDITORIAL HAIKU

No haiku motivation

Do I want to do
A haiku for you today
No I sure do not

Ross Vincent
DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR



ANTHONY GOERTZ

letters to the editor

Occupy Edmonton risks becoming marginalized

The rhetoric that emerged from the Occupy debate on campus was odd in that there seemed to be an assumption that if one opposed the movement, one did so out of ignorance, not differing opinion. This is something that has been perpetuated in almost all the 'official' Facebook and Twitter commentary of the movement. I argue that herein lays the essential problem with the movement, a desire to pontificate, not engage in dialogue. This is the movement's existential issue; if any lasting change is to be made this ideological arrogance needs to be abandoned. Running through the gilded halls of ETLC chanting, much to the dismay of students writing exams inside, is not a way to gain supporters; it is a way to disenfranchise anyone remotely interested in your movement.

Further, and much to my personal amusement, was one pro-Occupy debater's repeated complaints about the "mainstream media's" misrepresentation of the movement. Ironically enough, it was @occupyyeg's official Twitter feed that was misrepresenting the truth, claiming that hundreds of supporters were marching on campus, when the real figure settled somewhere between 50 and 80. To make matters worse, no one would actually acknowledge that their figures were completely wrong. This ought to be a concern for a movement calling for greater accountability and transparency in government, or the complete

dismantling of government, but that is another story.

Sure, the movement makes some valid points; increased accountability is a noble goal, more needs to be done for developing countries. However, it is inundated with self-aggrandizing protesters that demand things like a 9/11 Truth Commission, Former President George W Bush being charged with war crimes and free tuition for everyone who wants it. Something needs to be done before it becomes even more irrelevant and marginalized.

Dave Jones
ARTS II

Customary tipping not necessary for quality

(Re: "Tipping: the right thing to do, or useless practice?" by Alana Willerton & Nick Ong, Jan. 25)

In response to Brian's comment, printed February 1, while I agree that some of the best service can be received at less expensive restaurants, I have to vastly disagree with the author about service being horrible where it is not customary to tip.

I have travelled to a Scandinavian country where tipping in restaurants is not customary, and is often viewed as being something only for those who are arrogant and self important enough that they feel the need to flash their money around. The service in any restaurant I visited in the cumulative three months I spent in this country was easily as good as any service I've received in restaurants in Canada. The servers in these restaurants

generally believed in doing their job properly because they were being paid a fair wage for what they do. The price of a meal, in comparison with what the average wage earner in this particular country makes, is no more than it is here and the public is not expected to make up for wages that restaurant owners are too cheap to properly pay to begin with.

The fact that other professionals who are arguably offering much more important services than presenting a meal are often not allowed to accept tips is somewhat laughable. While I believe in an employee being properly paid by the employer without having to have an income supplemented by tips (no matter what the profession), I don't see this happening any time soon with our current cultural attitude.

Lacey Wallace
ARTS IV

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Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study, and student ID number to be considered for publication.

Brabeck-Letmathe a poor choice for honorary degree



Josh Schmaltz
OPINION STAFF

On March 1, the University of Alberta plans to present honorary degrees to three individuals based on their work in advocating the availability of safe drinking water to everyone on this planet. This sounds good on paper, but a closer look at the recipients presents some dicey problems.

Dr. Steve Hrudehy is a Professor Emeritus here at the U of A in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. He's written an extensive list of peer-reviewed papers about drinking water safety, and he was part of the expert panel during the Walkerton Inquiry — after E. coli got into the Walkerton, Ont. water supply and seven people died as a result. So far so good.

Sunita Narain is an environmental activist with the Centre for Science and Environment in India. She has studied a variety of air and water pollution issues, and she directed



DELICIOUS WATER Should we reward a Nestlé executive for bottling the stuff? SUPPLIED

research to analyze soft drinks in India. She found that most of them contained varying amounts of pesticide residue — leading some Indian states to ban the sale of Pepsi and Coca-Cola products. Sounds pretty important.

Peter Brabeck-Letmathe is the chairman of the Nestlé Group, and Nestlé Waters North America, a subsidiary of the Nestlé Group, the largest water bottling company in Canada and one of the largest water-bottling companies in the world.

Something doesn't quite fit here. Two of these people have done real work to encourage constructive public

discussion on drinking water issues. The third guy — not so much.

It's true that Brabeck-Letmathe was a co-author on a report prepared for the "2030 Water Resources Group," a collection of banks, agriculture businesses, and food companies. Notable members include the World Bank, the Coca-Cola Company, the Nestlé Group and Syngenta (a Swiss agribusiness company known for producing atrazine — a herbicide banned in the European Union because it turns male frogs into females). But each member is a for-profit company, and together they can't be expected to have much real expertise when it

comes to good, unbiased water resource management.

The bulk of the report consists of an analysis of water needs for many developed and developing countries over the next 15 to 20 years. Basically, everyone in the developing world is facing very serious water shortages in the near future, and the report highlights how much money there is to be made through selling clean water to these very needy — and very poor — people. There is no real argument made in support of water conservation. Why save water when you can always buy more from Nestlé?

Nestlé won the 2011 Stockholm Industry Water Award based on its contributions to the 2030 Water Resources Group report and by working with farmers to "reduce their water requirements, increase crop yields, and minimize pollution." Exact numbers and details on how Nestlé accomplished these goals are left to the reader's imagination.

The people of Mecosta County, Michigan probably wouldn't be so quick to praise Mr. Brabeck-Letmathe. That community took Nestlé Waters to court after rivers and wells ran dry

following the opening of a new water bottling plant in the area. Nestlé lost and had to stop pumping water, but it then appealed to the Supreme Court of Michigan with the argument that the original lawsuit was unconstitutional because most citizens in Mecosta County were not directly affected by the company's pumping of the aquifers. Nestlé won that appeal and was able to keep pumping water at about half the original rate.

There is nothing wrong with bestowing honorary degrees on people who've put their lives into their work in the interest of public good. However, inviting debate on water availability and then heaping praise on a man who makes his living through selling bottled water is hypocritical.

Nestlé and Mr. Brabeck-Letmathe care about making money. That's what companies do. There's no reason to expect they care about solving a water shortage in the same way others do.

Congratulations to Dr. Hrudehy and Ms. Narain on being publicly recognized for their hard work. It is truly disappointing that their moment of triumph is being overshadowed by this controversy.



ASS OF THE WEEK?

CHRIS BROWN

I didn't watch the Grammys, but apparently everyone hates this guy. Deserved win at the weekend, or gigantic ass?

gateway opinion

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Time for some awesome campaign promises



**Opinion
Staff**
GROUP COMMENTARY

The SU elections campaign period is almost upon us: the perfect time to make sure they know what we want.

Ryan Bromsgrove

I think I speak for every sleepy student on campus when I say I want me some all-day-breakfast.

Look, I'm a guy who loves his sleep. Sometimes — okay, often — I want to wake up at 11 a.m. and saunter my way to campus an hour or so later. But by the time I get there, my only option for breakfast is the off chance L'Express still has a breakfast muffin sitting around. And sitting under a heat lamp for a while, that's hardly an option.

No, what I want is the ability to sleep in really late and still be able to grab something with a combination of eggs, sausage and bacon when I finally show up on campus. And I don't mean to sound crazy here, but maybe a hash brown as well.

There's no reason RATT can't keep a carton of eggs and a package of bacon handy, and charge me \$10 for a scramble. That shit takes like five minutes to cook, and I'll pay top dollar for the convenience of sitting down to a beer with my breakfast at 3:30 p.m. on a Tuesday. Yeah I could just wake up five minutes earlier, but I'm a busy guy. Did Churchill have five minutes while he was fighting a war?

It doesn't have to be a complicated breakfast menu. I'm not asking for huevos rancheros — though if you offer me that beautiful King of Mexican Breakfast, I will work as your campaign manager for free. All I want are the simple, basic essentials. Promise me those, and you've got all of my votes.



STAR WARD Promise us we'll get this bitch into space. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: SELENA PHILIPS-BOYLE

Tyler Hein

Year after year, election after election, prospective candidates make promises to voters with no intention of ever following through on them. Those of us who actually care are always hurt by these batch of lies. "They promised us the world and gave us nothing!" you probably scream out regularly around election time.

Since many promises never take form anyways, why taunt us with ones that might dramatically improve our school life? I would love to see real candidates make the same promises joke candidates would make. We both know that they will never come true, so I see no harm in a little fantasy. Why not promise us a waterpark in SUB — or slip n' slides at the very least. During the day we'll go to class in FAB, but at night: laser tag. And the candidate will promise both without adding a single solitary cent to our fees.

You want to know the great thing about these ridiculous, outrageous, completely-stupid-if-not-a-joke campaign promises? They work. Ask Mr. Yamagishi himself how well implementing joke promises works in getting elected. Cough. Campus Musical. Cough.

Matt Hirji

I've heard my fair share of SU election promises during my seven years at the U of A. Some candidates have promised that they'd fight to lower tuition, while others have guaranteed more transparency. I think presidential candidate Michael Janz promised that he'd burn Lister Hall to the ground and build a residence of solid gold on the smouldering ashes.

But there's only one word a candidate needs for this year's Students' Union election to get my vote: space.

North Campus needs to be uprooted from its miserable location on the banks of the picturesque North Saskatchewan river, equipped with hundreds of rocket launchers and then blasted into low-earth orbit.

Only then will our astronomy students have an upper hand in their studies. Only then will we be able to do battle with those obnoxious "northern lights" that keep this city awake at night. And only then will we become one of the world's top 20 universities by 2020.

Of course, there will be a few technical difficulties along the way. But no lack of oxygen or black holes can force us to let go of our dream.

Welcome to space, U of A! Population 45,000. Let's blast off.

Airport art an important expense



Kory Orban
OPINION STAFF

Artwork can be ugly, offensive and pretentious, but it's rarely a complete waste of money. Unfortunately that's exactly the case made against the Edmonton International Airport's installation of \$1 million worth of artwork as a part of their recent renovations. Opponents have written the purchases off as a waste and expressed concern that the \$25 "airport improvement fee" that paid for them is a needless cash-grab.

Alas, this is a common sentiment that seems to permeate Edmonton. When somebody wants to spruce something up with art, every time it's condemned as extravagant and wasteful. "You can go to a museum or an art gallery if you want to see art," said one passenger quoted on CTV's website.

The argument that the art isn't necessary might carry some weight if EIA was underfunded and unable to provide adequate service — but it's not. Planes come and go all the time as scheduled. The airport functions and has room and reason to splurge on a few niceties. EIA's renovations

were to cost \$1 billion, later reassessed to be closer to \$675 million. Depending on which number you choose, the percentage of the total cost of the renovations that's paying for the art is between 0.1 and 0.148 per cent.

These percentages are minuscule, immaterial, and despite what art opponents' say, the art offers a return. It may not be readily measurable but it's there. Mayor Stephen Mandel and others have expressed interest in making Edmonton a "world-class city," and investment in the arts, especially in decorating one of the major gateways to the city, is a huge part of that.

Local artists created much of the work purchased by the EIA. This is important. Part of the effort to revitalize 118 Avenue has involved trying to entice artists to live in that area. Having a vibrant artistic community is desirable. To get that, you need to have artists. To have artists, you need to feed them. In order to feed them, you need to pay them. And to pay them, you need to commission artwork — like at the airport.

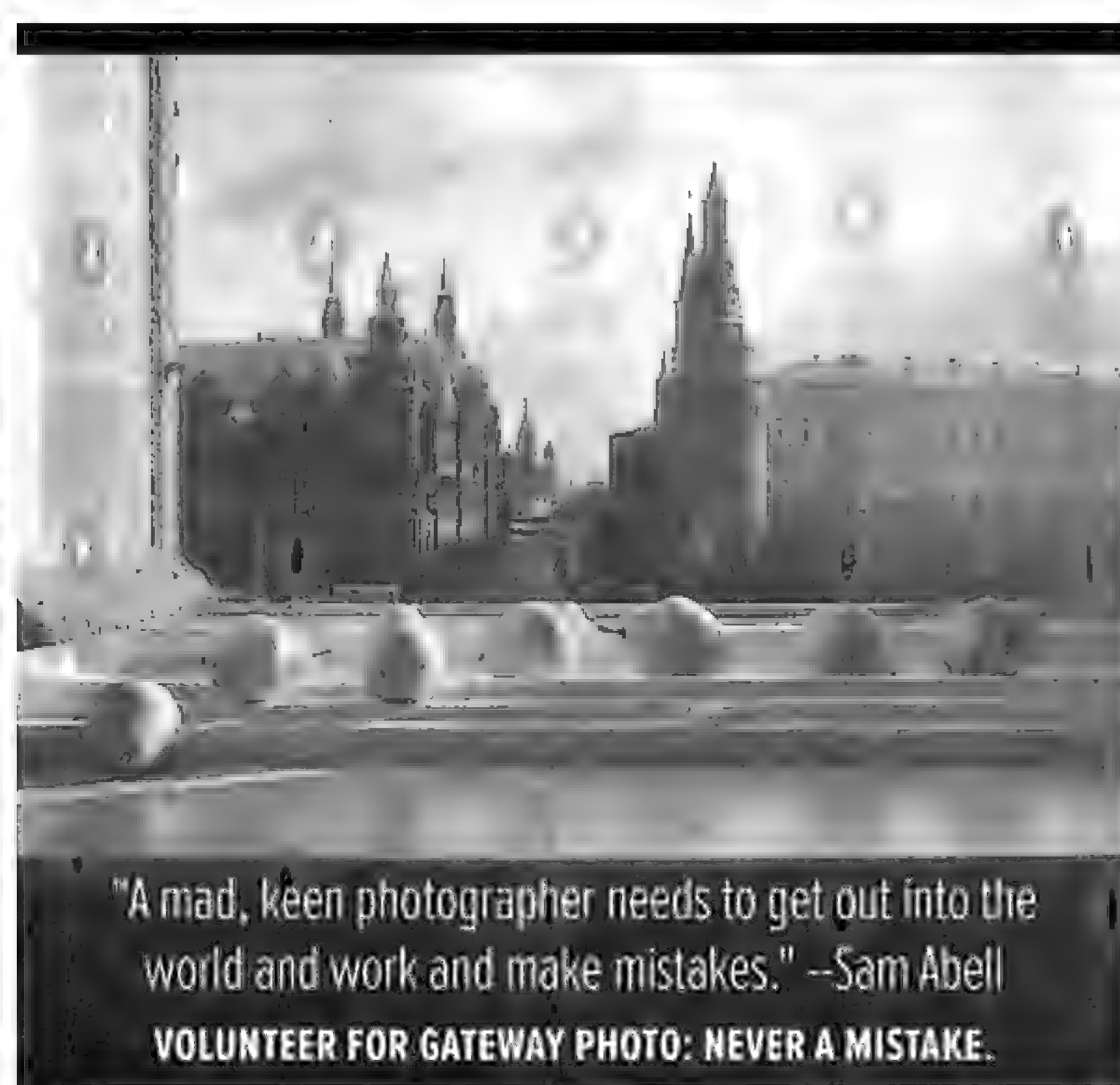
Beyond feeding the starving artists, you want your city to look pretty. People want to live in places that look nice. Improving the aesthetics of a city goes a long way towards bettering the morale and spirit of people who live in it. And there is no better place to start than the airport.

People spend a lot of time waiting around these places. Hanging art on the walls will at least give frustrated passengers something nice to look at. One can hope that being able to see the pretty pictures and sculptures will create a more pleasant atmosphere. Would you rather be in front of a blank wall or art while sitting in uncomfortable chairs after dealing with security?

On the other side, because customers are often faced with lengthy waiting times, the exposure for contributing artists will be maximized. This is a location that can really help artists get their names out there.

The airport is often the first point of contact for newcomers to Edmonton, so displaying the artwork is a great way to make a good first impression. Albertans are often unfairly generalized as conservative hicks, and demonstrating an interest or appreciation for the arts can help turn this around.

The \$25 dollar fee is probably legitimately described as a cash grab. Even if it is put towards a good cause and used responsibly, it's still money out of the pocket of the traveller. Nevertheless, the benefits surely justify the small expense. Having the art alongside the other renovations is the difference between doing an adequate job, and doing a great job in improving the EIA.



"A mad, keen photographer needs to get out into the world and work and make mistakes." --Sam Abell
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McDonald's breakfast menu: heaven or hell?

Not even God can match the delicious power of the Egg McMuffin



Darcy Ropchan
POINT

A good breakfast is the foundation of a great day. You need to have a solid morning meal to ensure you are ready for everything life could throw at you. But who has time for that in today's busy world of sleeping in late and not studying? Thankfully for slackers everywhere, McDonald's has taken care of your breakfast needs. It's not as healthy as porridge, but it tastes 10 times better and it's the cheapest, most available breakfast food there is. If Ronald McDonald says I should eat it then it's good enough for me.

If you've ever been fortunate enough to wake up before 10:30 a.m., you've most likely experienced the splendour that is breakfast at the Mac Shack. They've got eggs, hash browns and breakfast burritos. I'm pretty sure that covers all the major food groups. How could you hate

something that makes you feel so good? That would be like hating fun.

Eating breakfast at McDonald's is the ultimate hangover cure. It's a miracle food that will fix your stomach pains. Nothing makes you feel better after a night of tequila shots and beer chasers than gobbling down a hot Egg McMuffin and some greasy hash browns. It doesn't matter what state of inebriation you're in, it always goes down smooth. Any food you can still eat while fighting your gag reflex must be good.

Another reason to love breakfast at Ronald's house is that they're always improving. Good isn't good enough for these guys.

Take the Egg McMuffin for example. It's pretty much a hamburger with an English muffin, eggs and sausage. Not even God himself could create anything more beautiful. But then McDonald's decides to inject their classic breakfast sandwich with some extremism by putting maple syrup inside the muffin and calling it a McGriddle. No one knows how they do it, but it doesn't matter. One bite and you'll forget whatever's getting

you down. If love had a taste, it would taste like a McGriddle.

People may be wondering why you wouldn't just go to Denny's for breakfast over McDonald's? That's a stupid question. Where else are you going to get a complete and balanced breakfast for under \$10? You're not going to find that at Denny's.

One bite and you'll forget whatever's getting you down. If love had a taste, it would taste like a McGriddle.

And how can you beat McDonald's ambiance? You can buy your food and coffee and sit in the corner reading your newspaper without having to deal with pushy waitresses. There may be more screaming children at McDonald's, but the food more than makes up for that.

Whatever your favourite breakfast food is, McDonald's has it. It may not be the most calorie-wise option out there, but who cares?

McDonald's breakfast secret tool of the devil to acquire more souls



Nick Ong
COUNTERPOINT

I sometimes feel that the McDonald's breakfast was created to replace the daily penitence some of us seem to require. Lacking scourges and whips to cleanse our sins, modern society chooses instead to gnaw its way through the dry, rubbery crust of a McMuffin, forcing all that chalky dryness down with coffee so hot and diluted they could have brewed it in Beelzebub's colon. Eating cardboard doused with ketchup tastes better and has fewer calories. Knowing that corporate McDonald's forces this ritual upon us daily is enough to make anyone scream to the heavens, "y u no serve Big Macs at this hour, McD's?"

Having suffered with the rest of you, I have come to the only possible conclusion: McDonald's breakfast operation is a front run directly from hell to recruit broken souls. Yes, the tawdry red, yellow and oh-so-shiny fluorescent double-arches lure the tired, drunk and unwary masses into a corporate Ryleh, a Temple of Doom to harvest their souls after they graze at the feeding trough.

Here is my infallible reasoning. First, they put the least edible food they make on their breakfast menu. One reason that people still go to McDonald's in the morning is that they're too tired or too drunk to care, but this alone doesn't explain why most of these items are so calorie-laden.

The seemingly healthier Sausage and Egg McMuffin tops a Quarter Pounder by 30 calories.

But wait, there's more.

Consider the \$5 you fork out every morning for that awful slop that

McDonald's calls breakfast and what you get out of it. Now compare this to what \$5 can get you at the same establishment several hours later. Comparing the two, it's obvious that you'll get more bang for your buck after the breakfast deadline. If you think like I do, you will find this to be a bit too coincidental. By giving us the most unpalatable and most unhealthy food they can during the hours when we are least likely to care what we eat or how much we pay for it, they have broken our spirits, our arteries and our wallets in a single stroke.

Now that I have freed your mind from McDonald's breakfasts, here's what you should do: drop that McMuffin. Throw off the oppressive shackles put upon your breakfasting hours. Rejoice. Then, stop by Tim Hortons, and try their breakfast sandwiches. Seriously, they are pretty damn good.

councilwatch

COMPILED BY Ryan Bromsgrove

Something good happened on Students' Council this week. Fed up with consistently seeing items on the late additions rather than the main agenda with no plausible justification, Law Councillor Scott Nicol decided that enough was enough. Rather than allow a motion about the SU Food Policy make it onto the main agenda without a fight, he led the effort to prevent discussion of the item during that council session — which will hopefully serve to prompt councillors to be more considerate about deadlines in the future.

It'd be easy to characterize Nicol's arguments as a petty attempt to enforce bureaucracy over getting things done. But he was right to criticize the ongoing practice of councillors using the late additions deadline as they would an essay extension merely because they "dropped the ball."

The Food Policy appears to be an uncontroversial motion that probably would pass first reading without all that much debate, so the frustration that must accompany having to wait another two weeks is understandable. That said, it's as good a time as any to get the message to councillors that this shit has got to stop.

Councillors must submit items for the main agenda by 8 a.m. on the Friday before the Tuesday meeting, with the document compiled and available for read-

ing later that day. This gives them all adequate time to check them over, consider how they will approach each vote, discuss their thoughts with other councillors and consult members of their faculty for input.

When it comes to the late additions, there are no specific rules, but the precedent this year has been that items have been accepted up until early afternoon on the Tuesday of a council meeting, and the document goes online a few hours later. This drastically reduces the amount of time available to give each item the consideration it requires, and should really only be used when a vote has to happen and only when there is a compelling excuse as to why it's late. Too often this year the late additions have been abused as a means of having a few extra days to get material in, while depriving the rest of council the ability to come prepared for discussion.

It may seem petty, impractical and a waste of time to have prevented the Food Policy making it on the main agenda, but this is one time when enforcement of the rules set right their exploitation. Students' Council as a whole recognized and worked to correct one of its deficiencies. Those who didn't like how things turned out are welcome to meet the deadline next time.

Council Watch is a semi-regular feature where we take a listen to what Students' Council has to offer, and say why they are or are not representing students well this week. We also hear they have free food, and can always get behind that.

University meme page needs to be abandoned



Tyler Hein
OPINION STAFF

The University of Alberta Memes Facebook page took the community's fancy very quickly — it was near-impossible to not be bombarded by pictures from the page when it blew up. If you somehow managed to avoid having it monopolize your feed, you'd still be messaged by a friend who couldn't wait to share with you what would happen to Uber Frosh if he partied at Lister. After a couple days, it got to be a little bothersome.

At the risk of sounding like a hipster, it was funnier back at the beginning. That is, before it became a minor fad. The people who first latched on to the meme page are the people who actually know and understand what a meme is. A good meme is like a well-told joke. It requires a proper set-up. There is comedic timing involved. It has a twist that subverts the set-up and completes the joke. A funny meme takes skill.

For the most part, we as a school don't have that skill.

It's like how a joke told by a comedian is much, much funnier than the same joke being told by that guy

in your zoology class. Being funny is hard, and we now have definitive proof to verify that in the form of hundreds of failed attempts at humour.

For every perfectly utilized Suspicious Fry, there's 15 painfully executed Scumbag Steves with punchline-free text simply insulting engineers in a very non-scumbag way. What we can take from this failure is that it has now been scientifically proven that it takes a hundred U of A students working diligently for three days to officially run out of funny things to say on the internet.

All good things come to an end, and that end should be now for the meme page. It should be left to die.

Our school's brief attempt at assimilating this part of nerd culture quickly failed, but the horrifying results remain. It's like a graveyard of twisted, tortured, misused memes that should never again be entered. But no, turns out getting it wrong on Facebook is only one aspect of a larger problem.

As I sat in CAB eavesdropping on others' conversations, noting their lives sound boring — sad, coming from the guy sitting alone eating



ZOIDBERG SAYS Memes are serious business: if you get them wrong like this, stay off the Facebook page. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: DAN MCKECHNIE

microwavable soup — I heard snippets of people trying to talk in meme-speak.

Stop doing that.

Don't ever say, "That awkward moment when..." when you can just say, "It was awkward when..." and finish the story. It doesn't work when you say it — it's like how describing a funny picture isn't funny. You

wouldn't tolerate if I just walked up to you, knocked your books down, kicked them away, yelled "trollface!" and skipped away trolling. Not understanding the proper context of these memes is exactly why people got them wrong. Embracing memes into our daily vocabulary makes absolutely no sense to anyone.

All good things come to an end, and

that end should be now for the meme page. It should be left to die. It was funny for a day, tolerable for a few, and unbearable for the rest. I'm sure a campus of 30,000 students can find another way for engineers and arts students to insult each other. We were all given a chance to use meme humour and we failed. We should leave the medium to the people who understand it.

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The term runs from May 1, 2012 to April 30, 2013. The full-time paid portion of the job, at the salaries listed above, will run from mid-August, 2012 to the end of April 2013. All line editors will be expected to train on at least three summer issues for an honorarium of \$118.20 per issue.

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Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for interviews.

Application deadline is March 9, 2012 at 4pm.

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Board of Governors' decision leaves students vulnerable

MNIFS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Provost Carl Amrhein explained that the reasoning behind this motion was that it reflected proper governance structure, in that the BoG should "treat all constituencies equally." He did not think it prudent that the sole constituency that would actually be paying in the case of an MNIF increase — students — should receive extra consultation on such issues. Not only will we be the only constituency dealing with the repercussions of these potential increases, but we're also the ones with the least money to give. In most cases, students can't afford a substantial MNIF increase, such as we saw with the Common Student Space, Sustainability and Services fee in 2010, without either borrowing extra money or working more hours. But the BoG wants to gloss over the unique position of students for the sake of "equality."

Worse, this change to MNIF regulation came in the face of a motion that Students' Union President Rory Tighe intended to forward that required any new MNIFs be brought to student referendum (as the 2001 motion only applied to increases). However, Tighe was told he could not table his motion unless Amrhein's failed to pass, which it did not.

Tighe challenged the BoG on Friday that the university was using MNIFs to get around tuition regulations — a claim they obviously denied, but it certainly looks that way. President Indira Samarasekera has said that the U of A requires a four per cent increase to its base operating grant from the province. However, the provincial budget announced Thursday contained only a two per cent



MATT HIR, I

increase, albeit guaranteed for three years.

It looks as though the BoG is positioning itself to use students to bail themselves out of a budget crisis once again, just as they did with the the CoSSS fee two years ago. They can now increase MNIFs as well as create new ones, all without the pesky hassle of a student referendum.

When it comes to MNIFs, students deserve a more powerful voice than a

representative on a committee. Their representation on the board itself obviously had little impact. There seems no reason to expect their presence on a committee will either.

Hopefully, this latest move from the BoG will prompt the provincial government to finally regulate MNIFs — something the SU has been pushing for — before the BoG once again relies on students to solve their money woes.

Bilingual degree options require improvement



Lola Adeyemo
OPINION WRITER

More faculties should consider offering bilingual degrees. Even though the university is experiencing significant budget cuts, these should be made more available to students — or at least be in the works.

Presently at the U of A, both the Faculty of Business and the Faculty of Nursing partner with Campus Saint-Jean to provide students with the opportunity to graduate with a bilingual degree. For the bilingual BComm degree, students enrol in Campus Saint-Jean for their first year, and when admitted to the Faculty of Business in their second year, they switch back and forth between classes at the main campus and Campus Saint-Jean, either business courses in French or free electives.

Robin Cowan, Assistant Dean, Student Services and Community Affairs in the Faculty of Arts, explained that she had never heard about such a proposal being considered for the Faculty of Arts. She further indicated that such an idea would have to be "approved by the Deans (of both Faculties) and the government structures." The program would then be evaluated to see if it should be a priority.

Bilingualism and multilingualism should be at the forefront of the discussions in all reputable universities if their students are going to play a vital role in the future of this increasingly globally interdependent world.

Research by cognitive neuroscientist Ellen Bialystok indicates that bilingualism "sharpens the mind." People who are actively bilingual use more of their executive control system which in turn makes their brain function more effectively. A similar result was concluded by researchers at London's Wellcome Department of Imaging Neuroscience, who studied the brain densities of bilingual people. If universities serve to engage the minds of students, they should examine initiatives that encourage students to employ their minds in a new way. Aside from this neurological boost, the intensified mélange of cultures validates the importance of languages.

The purpose of a bilingual degree is that it would allow the students to interact with literature, history, politics, culture and society, at a more profound level. Learning a new language opens up a new world and the possibilities of understanding different perspectives. Each student is able to relate to thoughts in the author's own language without a middleman. A bilingual degree can challenge university students to think differently.

With Canada as a bilingual country, we already have an edge. We just need to push further for it to mean something in the future. We need to go beyond French immersion, and encourage students to pursue studying in second languages. In the words of German businessman, Karl Albrecht, "change your language and change your thoughts." The day will come when bilingual degrees will be a norm and we as a university should plan so that we are not playing catch-up.

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*February 19, Long Weekend Sunday.
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we call it Party Night in Canada.*

Pot legalization a long way off



Joel Aspden
OPINION WRITER

Canada should legalize and control, or at least decriminalize, pot. Now that's out of the way, let's get down to business. Changing attitudes at public and the political levels suggest that Canada might be poised to make some long-overdue moves when it comes to legalization, but we still have a couple of difficult barriers in the way.

According to a study from the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba, 44.5 per cent of Canadians over the age of 15 have given cannabis the good old college try, while about 35 per cent of us college-aged students are current users. More importantly, zero per cent of us tried it legally.

At a recent meeting of the Latin American Commission on Drugs and Democracy, several former Latin American presidents sparked controversy about international drug policy, pointing their fingers primarily at the US, and to a lesser extent at Canada and the EU. The commission blamed those nations' rampant drug culture for the widespread illegal status and high demand of cannabis in neighbouring countries, claiming policy changes could be internationally beneficial.

The big problem is that, for several reasons, no one wants to be the vanguard of change, which might give Canada a chance to step up.

For many years now, Canadian political parties have been wavering back and forth on their official positions on weed. Just recently, the Liberal Party of Canada officially endorsed the legalization of cannabis, and despite the announcement having strong "we lost so bad in the last election, does anyone still love us?" undertones, it's a bold move that will definitely garner some attention in the next few years.

Two recent polls by Forum Research showed that Canadians have



YOU WANNA GET HIGH? Not happening any time soon legally. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: DAN MCKECHNIE

stronger opinions about pot than they do about ties to the monarchy. About 20 per cent of Canadians are more concerned about the legalization of marijuana than they are with abolishing the Queen. With a growing majority of Canadians coming to their senses about the non-destructive nature of cannabis, legalization may be right around the corner.

Let's not forget about Canada's psychotic older brother, the United States. The US has been notoriously short-sighted in their "war on drugs" campaign: an over-reactive, ill-planned and grossly expensive operation that has destroyed more lives than it's helped. Despite the obvious failure of the campaign, and unfortunately for us northern dwellers, the American political spectrum doesn't seem to care about the science and reality of marijuana use. They would sooner throw you behind bars than see effective change.

Well then screw America. We Canadians can do what we want, right? Wrong. America likes us where we are. We have oil, water and the right

kind of trees. The last thing America wants is another border to keep an eye on, and they're going to work hard to keep it that way. Add to that at least three more years of Conservative rule in Parliament and it's unlikely we'll see dramatic change in the immediate future.

For now, all you puffers out there will have to keep your secrets hidden. Even though it makes sense socially, economically and politically to legalize cannabis, we're unfortunately not in the best position to lead the charge.

At this point, the best we can hope for in the near future is decriminalization. Although again, with the Conservatives in Parliament, it's unlikely that it'll happen any time soon. But at least the Liberals and the NDP seem to have their heads screwed on the right way. Maybe in a few years, if our left-of-centre parties abandon their pride and combine to form the one party that can consistently beat the Blues, we'll see the change that the majority of Canadians want. Until then, "keep it secret, keep it safe."

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LANDON I like you, we are complete opposites, but we connect, so you should like me too! =D
Red-haired engineer: Do you mean the guy with the stoney face that looks angry all the time? Just go talk to him - he won't bite your head off;)
DEAR BOYS: please do NOT date girls if you are just going to get back with your ex a month later. I was a soft and gentle spirit before dude #6 did this. Now I'm a shell of a human! :) YAY!
Seeking: interesting female with decent sense of humor. Also Bigfoot.
The AllSpark Broken, Optimus Prime's muttered words: I've fallen for you.
I've fallen for you.
Well, I keep falling for you.
Over and over.
Single, bulbous light: You adorn my endless night, My beloved Moon.
Attention ladies: 8.5 inches.
You're welcome.
RE: History 207.
Shush child, intelligent adults are talking.
Go to a third world country and see how much of a right education is there.
HOLY SHIT! Brad Chury actually exists!
Asian guy named Peter who is in science classes. I want you so bad! you know my shallowness. i wish you would talk to me. even if its a 3LF bitch.
If a guy lies to you in a big way, can you ever trust them again? Its easy to say "forget about him" but do i really have to?
There is a DQ on Whyte. What is Edmonton coming to? Boycott shitty chains!
up up down down left right left right a b

You had me at meat tornado.
To whoever wrote the Mr. G quote I will have sex with you
Can the two people in my PoliSci 210 class just bang already? Everyone wants it! Make the move!
Why does every protest have to be called "occupy?"
You smell so damn good, It's a little screwed up:
Flower power Kent
can everybody take a minute to remind themselves as to why Kleenex exist? Thanks. It's just really gross having to listen to you suck snort back into your head every 5 seconds for an entire class
Akinator is a FREAK!
Don't trust him
He's watching you!
If someone catches you looking at them, don't look away quickly; smile at them.
Roses are grey,
Violets are grey,
I am a dog.
Education is not a right. I may be 24 and in my third year, but I'm paying for it all with my hard earned cash.
If you can't cough up the cash, that's your problem.
Barta number 2.
Your manticore does impress Natural 20.
Megan, I can't believe I forgot to ask for your number when we were walking down hub mall next time!
Andrew
don't interrupt my facebook time occupy. Your parents pay your tuition and you've never had a job.
Jennifer, I know you only read 3LF and then throw the Gateway away. But I know you're going to keep this one. Because once you look up, you're going to see me with a ring proposing.
The Gateway reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission it deems racist, sexist or otherwise hateful in nature.

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University of Alberta Students' Union 2010 - 2011 Annual Report



The 2010/2011 year was a generally productive and stable one for the University of Alberta Students' Union. Most of the work in this report reflects the combined effort of nearly 200 full and part-time staff, over 800 volunteers, a provincial and federal lobby group and its staff, 32 student councilors, and members of the University and broader community. There are very few items in this report that are worked on in isolation and without the consideration of the impact each item has for the 30 000 undergraduate students at the University of Alberta.

I would also like to acknowledge that much of the work in this report is a continuation of the efforts of executives and staff that came before us and it is important to recognize their contributions. Because of the one-year mandate our Executives, and some of our staff face, it is very easy for many to forget that each year is part of a much larger story. Some of the "wins" we see today are because of the efforts of student leaders years earlier and only now coming to fruition. For example, the relatively low tuition increase we saw this year is a result of successful lobbying of past student leaders to create a provincial regulation that mandates CPI limits to tuition increases. With that in mind, this report reflects the 2010/2011 year's contribution to moving the ball forward for students at the University of Alberta.

I wish the best to the 2011-12 Executive and look forward to seeing what the future holds for the University of Alberta Students' Union.

See you out there.

Nick Dehod
President 2010/2011

James Eastham
VP Academic
2010/2011

Rory Tighe
VP Student Life
2010/2011

Aden Murphy
VP External
2010/2011

Zach Fentiman
VP Operations &
Finance
2010/2011



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This annual report — part of the Students' Union's framework for remaining accountable to students — is intended to provide students with an overview of the activities of their Students' Union over the 2010-2011 academic year.

For a relatively small organization, we have an incredible breadth of activity. To help readers we have broken down this report into several major areas: Advocacy and Representation, Services, Business and Lease Operations, Building Operations, Programming and Venues, Communications, Governance and Management, and Finances. Each section stands on its own, so you can skip around the report more easily.

ADVOCACY & REPRESENTATION

The first responsibility of any students' association is to advocate for and represent students to the administration, government, and the community at large. From lobbying on copyright reform and tax credits to fighting the imposition of mandatory fees without student approval, the Students' Union has had its share of success and disappointment.

We held a plebiscite on the introduction of a Fall Reading Week, which passed with majority support. This year, we are working on having the University adopt a Fall Reading Week that does not require an early start to the academic year.

"The Students' Union pushed for greater transparency in how mandatory non-instructional fees are set and allocated"

A renewed U-Pass agreement was implemented following a 2010 referendum approving higher rates in exchange for improved service commitments.

The Students' Union, in collaboration with the Dean of Students, successfully lobbied the university administration to devote more resources to mental health on campus. New programming and additional counselors were provided as a result of these efforts.

We advocated for changes to new residence community standards to ensure clarity, transparency, and fairness for students living in residence.

Working with the LHSA, we lobbied for changes to the meal plan system. Though we did not prevent the removal of the lowest-level (cheapest) meal plan, we were successful in increasing the amount of unspent meal plan money that could be refunded to students.

The Students' Union pushed for greater transparency in how mandatory non-instructional fees are set and allocated, and lobbied government to provide stricter regulation in this area. This fight continues this year.

We worked with the university on its new academic plan to increase the opportunities for and prominence of undergraduate research projects.

The SU approached the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation to help find Muslim students a better space to host Friday prayers. This was successful, and a larger space was found that met their short-term needs.

The VP (External Affairs) served as chair of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, our national student advocacy group. We worked to improve access to student loans, support for aboriginal learners, and the experience of international students. These issues were on the agenda with the hundreds of Members of Parliament, Senators and government officials that CASA met with through regular lobbying meetings and participation in government processes and committees.

SERVICES

Services are core to what the Students' Union offers its members. From orientation to financial aid to support for individuals and student groups, the SU provides a wide range of services to support student life and student success.

Our services also provide jobs and professional development opportunities to more than 50 staff and 800 volunteers. No other student association in the country offers the range and depth of services we do, and our level of collaboration with University Student Services is unparalleled.

"Students [...] demonstrated extremely strong support for Safewalk, even if they didn't personally use it"

ECOS' mandate was reviewed and updated in a way that reflects its role as a facilitator of student-led sustainability projects, and renamed Sustain SU. ECOS/Sustain SU ran seven programs, including a re-usable dish program, a community garden, and a bike library.

Safewalk saw upgrades to communications gear and another strong year of volunteer recruitment. Students expressed strong support for Safewalk in the annual survey, even if they didn't personally use it, as a key part of a safe campus.

The Peer Support Centre saw a substantial increase in client usage — up 50% — as mental health became a campus issue and the PSC began working more closely with other campus groups such as Residence Services and the Health and Wellness Team. The PSC moved to a new location on the second floor of SUB in summer 2011, closer to related university services.

Infolink went through a minor administrative reorganization, added selected OneCard services, and began planning for a new tutor registry service, which was introduced this term. Infolink booths were visited over 119,000 times during the year.

Over 600 student volunteers helped the Centre for Student Development deliver the 2010 orientation program to thousands of students. We also began the transfer of the Campus Ambassadors tour program to the Registrar's office and trialed a new co-curricular record for students.

Student Group Services introduced a new online registration and community site called BearsDen, and improved its leadership development and group support programs. The student group granting process was also revised to make it simpler, more transparent, and fairer. A record 441 student groups were fully or partially registered through the year.

The Student Financial Aid Information Centre had an active year, with over 8,100 consultations. The overall number of annual consultations is trending down in recent years. Responsibility for the Students' Union Awards program was transferred to SFAIC and, combined with a transfer of reserves from the Access Fund to the Student Involvement Endowment Fund, the available awards were expanded significantly in quantity and value. Policy changes to the management of the Access Fund also allowed for a 20% reduction in the Access Fund dedicated fee.

The second year of the student health and dental plan went well, with a smoother opt-out process leading to fewer complaints. Insurance premiums rose slightly to account for higher-than-expected usage of the plan.

"Responsibility for the Students' Union Awards program was transferred to SFAIC and [...] the available awards were expanded significantly in quantity and value"

As a group, our services units initiated a full review of their mandates and strategies. The results of this review are being rolled into future development plans for the services.

BUSINESS & LEASE OPERATIONS

The Students' Union operates a variety of businesses, both to generate revenue (and thus keep fees low) and to enable students to influence the campus market. This latter point is best illustrated by the story of SUBtitles, as prior to its creation in the early 1990s, the used-book market was next to non-existent. SUBtitles not only provided a used-book option, but also spurred the Bookstore to greatly expand its used-book operation.

Overall, business and lease operations contributed net revenue of over \$1.5 million to the operating budget, greatly helping to offset the cost of advocacy, student services, and building operations. Without this contribution, providing services at the level we do would require SU fees to be approximately \$50 higher than they are currently.

SUBphoto by New Light Photography came to SUB as a new tenant, filling a small retail vacancy. All indications are that it has been quite successful in this location.

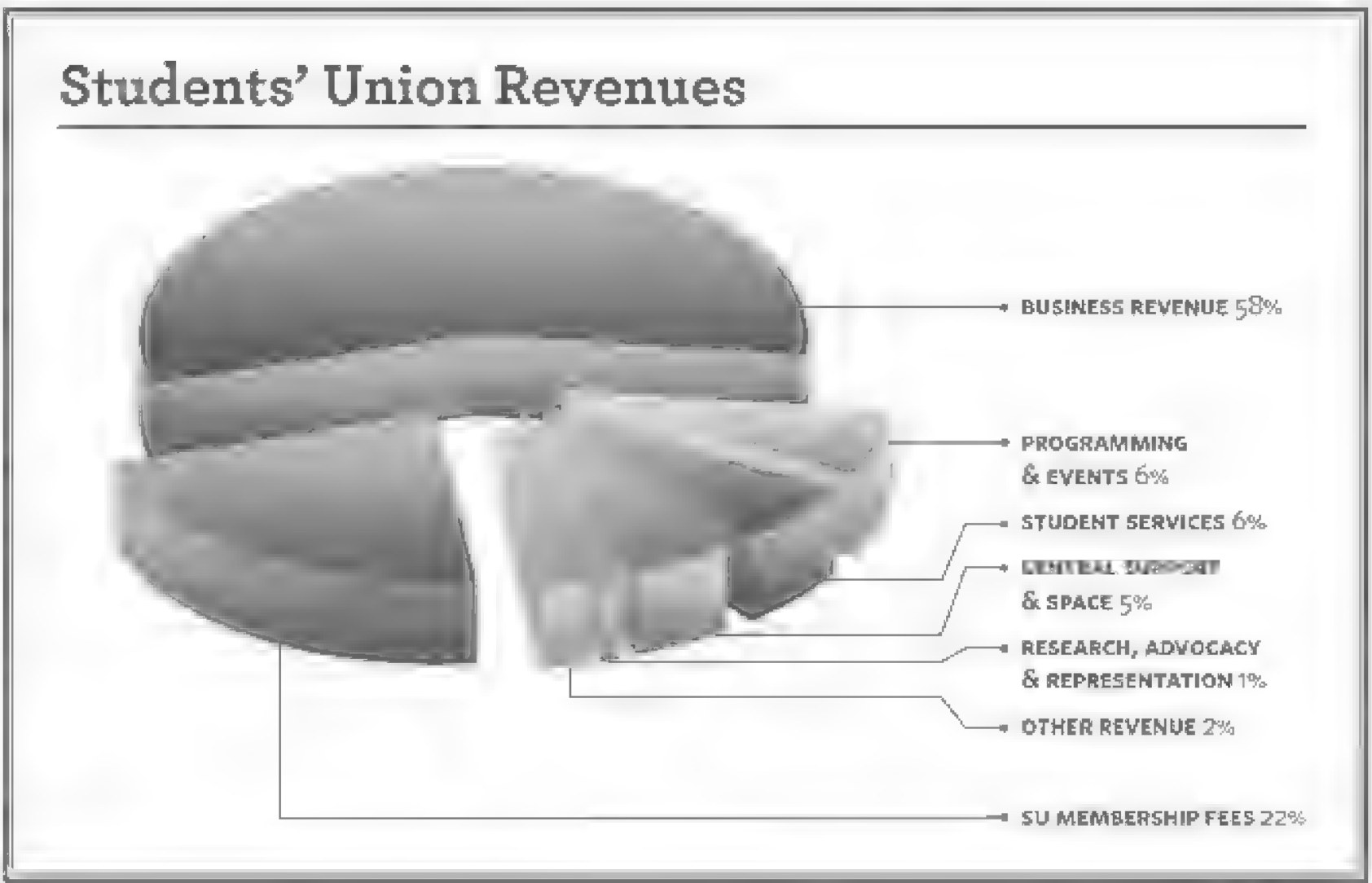
After a small decline in food court revenues of 3% during the recession, revenues recovered 2% to near their 2008-09 peak. Since its inception in 1993, overall food court gross revenue has increased 300%. Our top tenant in 2010-11 grossed 384% more than our top outlet did when the food court was created.

L'Express café and catering saw 9.3% growth in sales, and topped \$1 million in gross revenue for the first time as catering operations continued to grow.

Offsetting L'Express' gains, both Juicy and Cram Dunk saw lower revenues in 2010-11. Cram Dunk's declines occurred in coffee sales, reflecting a much tougher competitive environment brought on by the introduction of several new coffee outlets in the vicinity.

"...business and lease operations contributed net revenue of over \$1.5 million to the operating budget"

Room at the Top made improvements to its bar equipment, reducing spillage and keeping beer colder. Both Room at the Top and Dewey's had decent results, but continued to face strong off-campus competition, and remain a focus for further development. Gross revenue for the bars was essentially flat from the previous year, partially due to the closure of Room at the Top for over a month in the summer. Gross margin at Room at the Top increased slightly, but this was offset by increased staff costs.



All food operations experienced pressure on input prices, with many food staples seeing double- or even triple-digit percentage price increases.

Overall food and beverage revenues increased 5% and the net profit from these operations increased to \$294,481, an increase of 11% over the prior year. This overall increase is largely attributable to improved catering revenues.

SUBprint faced uncertainty on the copyright front. Changes in the university's policy on Access Copyright hurt course pack revenues somewhat, but SUBprint continued to be a profitable venture as increased counter work compensated. New equipment leases and the

buyout of an old lease were negotiated, reducing costs significantly.

SUBtitles continued to operate at the lower revenue levels established after the 2008 move to the lower level. The addition of sustainability-themed items failed to generate significant new off-peak sales.

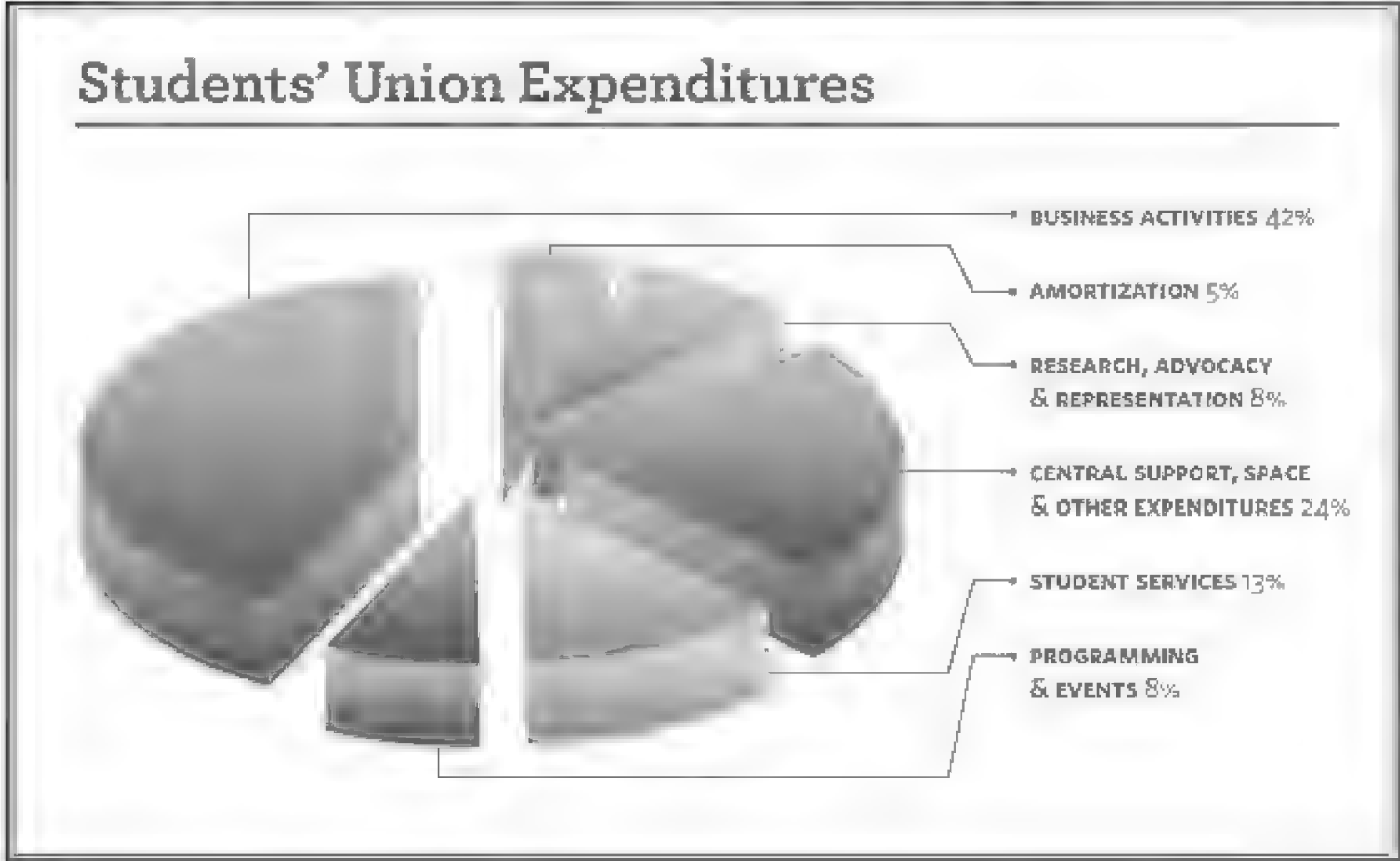
Both SUBtitles and SUBprint are bearing the brunt of a fundamental shift in how course materials are provided on campus. Publishers are revising editions or adding ancillary content very frequently. The university is working to minimize copyright expenses and promote a move to cheaper electronic delivery models.

The Students' Union got into the course pack and used-book business to try and alleviate the high costs of academic materials. Cost reduction remains our goal, and our strategy will evolve to meet the changing landscape.

sustainability of existing buildings. In 2011, SUB received 2 Green Globes out of 4, so certainly room for improvement exists, but it is good starting point for a 45-year-old building.

“The Students’ Union Building has traditionally served as the ‘living room’ of campus, a place for students that is comfortable, accessible, and friendly”

Accessibility improvements were made to the south entrance and the main west staircase, and an air curtain was installed at the south entrance to improve comfort within the building.



SUBmart saw a significant 13% increase in gross revenue, but margin pressures resulted in negligible changes to gross margin. That, combined with changes to how staff costs are allocated, resulted in net revenue significantly below budget and expectation. SUBmart will strive to improve its performance and value to students in the 2012/13 fiscal year.

“Overall food and beverage revenues increased 5% and the net profit from these operations increased to \$294,481, an increase of 11% over the prior year”

As required by our franchise agreement with Canada Post, the SUB postal outlet was renovated. The postal outlet continued its long but slow decline in gross revenue as more communication is done electronically, but remains a net revenue generator for the Students' Union.

Overall, our retail units (SUBprint, SUBmart, SUBtitles, and the postal outlet) saw a small, \$2,000 decline in net profit on a 3% drop in gross revenue.

All business units and our facilities operations are unionized. We successfully negotiated a new two-year agreement for our staff, providing 2% and 3% cost of living adjustments in 2011 and 2012, respectively.

BUILDING OPERATIONS

The Students' Union Building has traditionally served as the 'living room' of campus, a place for students that is comfortable, accessible, and friendly. 60% of students visit at least once a week, and 25% visit 4 or more times per week. SUB acts as a hub for student services, student groups, and social and study needs of students.

Our excellent facilities staff continued to provide a clean, safe environment for students 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. As always, when doing cleaning or maintenance, sustainability is a key consideration; we use environment-friendly cleaning products and keep an inventory of recycled and repurposed building materials.

In collaboration with the university, a number of improvements were made to the building in 2010-11. The building's incandescent lighting was replaced with fluorescents and other energy-saving lighting. In addition, a thin film was applied to the south and west faces of the tower to reduce solar loading. These changes save money and reduce our energy footprint.

We began the process of obtaining BoMA Go certification for SUB. The Green Globes are a system for assessing the

was hampered by poor weather, but shows such as White Panda made it a memorable kick-off to the year. Antifreeze and Campus Cup both saw strong growth in participation levels, and marked great opportunities for students to connect with others outside their usual circles. We also brought in Frank Warren of PostSecret for a very successful set of shows in the fall, in keeping with the general push towards mental health awareness that the SU promoted.

The programming highlight of the year, of course, was the recapture of the Guinness World Record for the world's largest dodgeball game, with 2012 participants. Since then, that record has been broken and reclaimed again, with our 4979-person dodgeball game earlier this month.

In addition to the major programming events that the Programming and Venues department runs, it also provides support and space to a wide range of student group activities throughout the year.

“Antifreeze and Campus Cup both saw strong growth in participation levels, and marked great opportunities for students to connect with others outside their usual circles”

The SU's main venues of Dinwoodie and Myer Horowitz saw significantly increased activity levels. Event revenues at Dinwoodie increased 66% and Horowitz revenues increased 18% (but on a much larger starting base). During the school year, the theatre was almost completely booked every weekend for both U of A events and those of the larger community. External events helped subsidize campus programming.

Finally, the Programming and Venues department played a central role preparing to host a successful national conference for the support staff of Canadian students' associations.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communication with students — our members — is a top priority for the Students' Union. Letting students know what we're doing is critical to our success.

In 2010-11, we embarked on a new initiative to help that cause. SUTV, a digital signage system, was introduced in SUB to promote programs, events, and services in the university community. We plan on expanding the service to other areas of campus, and to innovate new digital media services, such as the Edmonton Transit departures board.

PROGRAMMING & VENUES

The Programming and Venues department was reorganized to improve events for students. The Students' Union increased its net investment in programming activities by over \$100,000, part of our drive to foster greater engagement and social opportunities for students.

Our regular program of Week of Welcome, Antifreeze, movie nights, and Campus Cup has proved successful.

2010/11 Week of Welcome

We also overhauled our website and web infrastructure, replacing an aging system with a newer, more flexible back end and a rethought user interface. We're still growing the new system, but are pleased with the increased quality and reliability, and with the feedback we have received.

Even more important than telling students what we're doing is listening to what they want us to do. With that in mind, the SU also conducted a student survey on issues ranging from student debt to student satisfaction with the U of A. Almost 7,000 responses were received, and the survey results were used to help shape everything from advocacy on the fall reading week to business pricing policies.

GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

The Students' Union takes governance issues — transparency, fairness, and responsiveness — very seriously.

Part of ensuring good governance is a shared understanding of purpose and plan. To that end, the Students' Union adopted a Strategic Plan and developed a management process to ensure we kept to our commitments. This report itself is a mandated part of that process.

The Students' Union created an office dedicated to enhancing the effectiveness of student representatives at all levels of student governance at the University of Alberta. This office teaches students about good governance practice, provides support to students on University committees and councils, and facilitates the development of good governance practices among student groups, with an emphasis on faculty associations. The overall purpose of the office is to provide impartial advice and support that facilitates students being better representatives.

We worked with the university to develop an appropriate agreement on how the PAW Centre capital fee would be used and how the PAW Centre would be governed when built. This, along with work on refining the PAW Centre design, required considerable staff and executive efforts.

In response to the increasing interest in sustainability issues among students, the SU commissioned a student-produced sustainability audit of its operations. This audit was completed recently and is now available on our website.

The executive reviewed and consolidated the SU's operating policies, which are the rules that govern our daily operations. These are also available on our website.

Management has identified the expansion of student employment opportunities as a priority for the next few years. We seek to integrate more fully into the pedagogical life of the university, and expanded our use of community service learning and internship programs to provide research and support to our operations.

FINANCES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION APRIL 30, 2011 WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR 2010		
	2011	2010
ASSETS (Current)		
Cash	\$5,303,904	\$4,287,193
Accounts receivable	964,907	769,434
Accrued interest receivable	82,684	40,729
Merchandise inventories	365,124	318,733
Prepaid expenses and deposits	87,872	124,099
	6,804,491	5,540,188
ASSETS (Held)		
Investments	3,290,869	4,221,561
Capital assets	6,964,968	7,142,219
	\$17,060,328	\$16,903,968
LIABILITIES (Current)		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$1,019,339	\$1,176,387
Deferred revenue and deposits	208,735	285,348
Current portion of long-term debt	310,539	296,624
	1,538,613	1,758,359
LIABILITIES (Other)		
Long-term debt	299,058	609,597
	\$1,837,671	\$2,367,956
FUND BALANCES		
Invested in capital assets	\$6,355,371	\$6,235,998
Externally restricted funds	2,098,962	4,623,336
Student Involvement Fund	3,058,049	289,645
Internally restricted funds	1,250,986	1,274,273
Unrestricted funds	2,333,400	2,055,625
	15,096,768	14,478,877
Cumulative net unrealized gains on investments		
	125,889	57,135
	15,222,657	14,536,012
	\$17,060,328	\$16,903,968

The Students' Union's finances remain in good shape. Our financial statements can be confusing, so here are some key points to keep in mind.

We are audited annually by an external Auditor, and work with our Audit Committee on our financial statements. Management does not sit on the Audit Committee. The Auditor has approved the financial statements as a fair representation of the Students' Union's finances.

“For a student who wants to know, ‘Did the Students’ Union make or lose money last year?’, the best indicator is the increase in our unrestricted funds balance, which represents our accumulated surplus. This balance increased by \$277,775 in 2010-11.”

We have included here the two most important statements, the Statement of Financial Position (a balance sheet) and the Statement of Operations (a version of an income statement). These are very general overviews; the full Financial Statements contain much more detail on operational finances, and can be found on the SU website.

For the non-accountants among our members, it is important to note that the Net Revenue listed on the Statement of Operations does not represent the annual surplus or cash flow available to general operations of the Students' Union. Due to the way amortization, building loans, restricted fund allocations, and capital purchases are accounted for, the actual increase in the accumulated surplus is much smaller than implied by the Statement of Operations.

For a student who wants to know, “Did the Students’ Union make or lose money last year?”, the best indicator is the increase in our unrestricted funds balance, which rep-

resents our accumulated surplus. This balance increased by \$277,775 in 2010-11. Our overall asset value, as indicated in the Statement of Financial Position, increased by less than that (\$156,360), primarily reflecting the impact of aging capital assets.

The unrestricted reserve is the SU's rainy-day fund, and currently sits at about 25% of our annual operating expenses.

THE FUTURE

The new strategic plan has provided a great deal of focus to the Students' Union as it pursues the plan's seven goals. Student engagement and effective representation are the pillars of that strategy. We have begun work on projects (expanding student group services, programming, and student space; improving governance processes and support for student representatives) to strengthen those pillars.

This is a student-directed organization and its future depends on you. Without students willing to step into leadership positions or without a student body willing to voice its concerns, the organization would struggle.

If you're interested in getting involved by running for Council, an executive position, or volunteering for a service, please do! We need you!



SU BY THE NUMBERS	
Number of Volunteers at Orientation:	605
Total number of visits to InfoLink locations:	119,000
Total number of visits to SFAIC:	8,116
Total hours students volunteered at the Peer Support Centre:	2,647
Number of adverts in the Housing Registry:	4090
Number of searches of those ads:	210,000
Number of times Sustain SU's reusable dishes were reused:	14,000
Number of jobs posted to Jobkin:	490
Number of different course packs printed at SUBprint:	644
Total course packs printed:	27,902
Total revenue at SUBtitles from used textbook sales:	\$540,800
Amount by which Access Fund fee dropped:	\$3.62
Value of grants distributed by Access Fund:	\$810,809
Average size of each grant:	\$2,277.55
Number of student groups registered or pending:	441
Number of unique visits to SU Website:	365,796

THE STUDENTS' UNION, THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
YEAR ENDED APRIL 30, 2011 WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR 2010

	2011					2010				
	CAPITAL ASSET FUND	EXTERNALLY RESTRICTED FUNDS	STUDENT INVOLVEMENT FUND	UNRESTRICTED AND INTERNALLY RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL OPERATIONS	CAPITAL ASSET FUND	EXTERNALLY RESTRICTED FUNDS	STUDENT INVOLVEMENT FUND	UNRESTRICTED AND INTERNALLY RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL OPERATIONS
GENERAL REVENUE										
Student Fees (includes Health and Dental Plan)	\$-	\$5,752,910	\$-	\$2,249,047	\$8,001,957	\$-	\$5,983,545	\$-	\$2,110,731	\$8,094,276
Interest and dividends	-	16,817	7,655	160,968	185,440	-	-	10,103	116,164	126,267
SUBTOTAL: General Revenue	-	5,769,727	7,655	2,410,015	8,187,397	-	5,983,545	10,103	2,226,895	8,220,543
DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE										
Business Activities	-	-	-	5,737,979	5,737,979	-	-	-	5,662,161	5,662,161
Programming and Event Activities	-	-	-	652,212	652,212	-	-	-	522,856	522,856
Student Service Activities	-	-	-	609,443	609,443	-	-	-	553,260	553,260
Central Support and Space Activities (including SUB)	-	-	-	521,404	521,404	-	-	-	507,664	507,664
Representation Activities	-	-	-	121,635	121,635	-	-	-	110,000	110,000
Reserve Activities	-	450	-	167,242	167,692	-	-	-	314,510	314,510
SUBTOTAL: Departmental Revenue	-	450	-	7,809,915	7,810,365	-	-	-	7,670,451	7,670,451
TOTAL GENERAL AND DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE	-	5,770,177	7,655	10,219,930	15,997,762	-	5,983,545	10,103	9,897,346	15,890,994
DEPARTMENTAL EXPENSES										
Business Activities	-	-	-	4,208,245	4,208,245	-	-	-	4,163,039	4,163,039
Programming and Event Activities	-	-	-	752,592	752,592	-	-	-	521,328	521,328
Student Service Activities	-	-	-	1,243,328	1,243,328	-	-	-	1,205,142	1,205,142
Central Support and Space Activities (including SUB)	-	-	-	2,209,195	2,209,195	-	-	-	2,044,471	2,044,471
Representation Activities	-	-	-	588,490	588,490	-	-	-	621,528	621,528
Reserve Activities	-	5,494,551	27,295	305,470	5,827,316	-	4,300,994	27,708	276,054	4,604,756
SUBTOTAL: Departmental Expenses	-	5,494,551	27,295	9,307,320	14,829,166	-	4,300,994	27,708	8,831,562	13,160,264
GENERAL EXPENSES										
General Amortization	500,666	-	-	-	500,666	475,458	-	-	-	475,458
Interest on Long-term debt	-	-	-	46,883	46,883	-	-	-	80,463	80,463
Amortization of premiums and discounts on investments	-	-	-	8,018	8,018	-	-	-	8,396	8,396
Realized loss (gain) on disposal of investments	-	-	11,956	(16,818)	(4,862)	-	-	-	49,521	49,521
SUBTOTAL: General Expenses	500,666	-	11,956	38,083	550,705	475,458	-	-	138,380	613,838
TOTAL GENERAL AND DEPARTMENTAL EXPENSES	500,666	5,494,551	39,251	9,345,403	15,379,871	475,458	4,300,994	27,708	8,969,942	13,774,102
NET REVENUE (EXPENSES)	\$(500,666)	\$275,626	\$(31,596)	\$874,527	\$617,891	\$(475,458)	\$1,682,551	\$(17,605)	\$927,404	\$2,116,892

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Arts & Culture Editor

Madeline Smith

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Email

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Volunteer

A&C meetings Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB.

social intercourse

COMPILED BY **Alana Willerton**
OFFICIAL ONE DIRECTION FANZINE

Dierks Bentley

With Chad Brownlee
Jubilee Auditorium (11455 87 Ave.)
Sunday, Feb. 19 at 7:30 p.m.
Starting at \$51.15 at ticketmaster.ca

Dierks Bentley is slowly but surely establishing a permanent presence on the country music charts, thanks to the dozen Top 10 hits he's racked up over his career. Bentley released his debut single "What Was I Thinkin'" back in 2003, and is enjoying the success of his sixth studio album *Home*. A favourite at the Grammys and CMAs every year, Bentley is one country act you don't want to miss.

BMO World of Creativity: Method and Madness

Created by Gabe Wong
Art Gallery of Alberta
(2 Sir Winston Churchill Square)
Opens Sunday, Feb. 19
\$8.50 admission

Enter the world of abstract thinking with the AGA's latest exhibition in the BMO World of Creativity. Method and Madness, created by local designer and illustrator Gabe Wong, uses geometric shapes and primary colours to inspire imagination. Visitors can create mythological creatures out of paper, perform compositions with sound and movement and decode cryptographic messages. Method and Madness is part of a rotating series in the BMO World of Creativity, an interactive space which changes every year and gives families the opportunity to explore ideas of abstraction, story and theatre through art.

Parka Patio

Saturday, Feb. 18 at 8 p.m.
Latitude 53 (10248 106 St.)
\$12 at latitude53.org or at the door

Latitude 53 is inviting Old Man Winter to the party this year with their latest fundraiser event, Parka Patio. An extension of their Summer Rooftop Patio Series, this marks the first time Latitude 53 has taken the party outdoors during the winter season. With a heated patio, DJs, video projections and warm drinks and food to keep you cozy, you won't be concentrating on the temperature for long. But if the weather does start to get to you, the inside of the gallery features a silent auction with art from several Edmonton artists, as well as winter installation environments created by Mackenzy Albright, Rachel Bowen and Jes McCoy.

Disney in Concert

Presented by the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra
Conducted by Lucas Waldin
Featuring singers Dennis Kyle, Juliana Hansen, Arielle Jacobs and Arbender Robinson
Saturday, Feb. 18 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.,
Sunday Feb. 19 at 2 p.m.
Winspear Centre (4 Sir Winston Churchill Square)
Starting at \$32 at winspearcentre.com

Most of us grew up humming infectious Disney tunes. From *Mary Poppins* to *The Little Mermaid*, Disney makes up the soundtracks of our childhoods. Now these musical melodies are coming back with Disney in Concert, a night dedicated to the best of the studio's music. A quartet of accomplished vocalists will accompany this orchestral salute to childhood as the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra attempts to recreate the magic of Disney.

Kids in the Hall's Kevin McDonald shares comedic words of wisdom

COMEDY PREVIEW

Kevin McDonald's comedy workshop and improv jam

WHEN > Workshops: Tuesday, Feb. 28 and Wednesday Feb. 29 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Show: Tuesday, Feb. 28 at 10 p.m.
WHERE > Varscona Theatre (10329 83 Ave.)
HOW MUCH > Tickets to the show \$20 at tixonthesquare.ca

Darcy Ropchan

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF • @DRROPCHA

Who knew you could find love through improv? It's all about taking risks by getting up on stage and saying the first thing that comes to mind. Kevin McDonald, star of the former television comedy show *The Kids in the Hall*, has seen great success in his love life through performing — even though he only seems to attract a certain type. This might not be by choice, but those are the hazards that come from participating in the improvised stage games known as theatresports.

McDonald jokes that when it comes to warming up for an improv performance, he's all about showing the love — regardless of who ends up falling for him.

"I used to love the 'I Love You Game.'" McDonald says with chuckle. "It's you and someone else, and you have to love that other person and they have to love you, and you can pretty much do anything and everything, but you just can't actually say 'I love you.'"

"I was always with some dumpy, bald guy. And I've actually had many dumpy, bald men fall in love with me."

"I like being able to blame somebody. I always thought my comedy was better when I was reacting to something that somebody else did. Stand-up is a lonely thing and I'm not technically very good at it. When I do stand-up, I'm more of a character: a guy that's trying to do stand-up."

KEVIN MCDONALD
COMEDIAN

McDonald will be bringing his knowledge of love, improv and performing to the Varscona Theatre this month in hopes of helping local performers learn how to use improv skills to become better writers. The public will also get a chance to see him onstage with Rapid Fire Theatre on Tuesday night, accompanied by local stand-up comedians Jon Mick and Mike Robertson. McDonald hopes to teach some of his own comedy theories he's developed over the years about how to shape scripted material through improv.

With decades of experience and a long list of film, TV and stage credits, McDonald could easily be considered an expert in comedy. A founding member of The Kids in The Hall troupe, he established his comedy credentials during 28 years with them. Through his experience of making people laugh, he's seen the evolution of his own comedy writing, starting with improv and flourishing into scripted ideas.

"In my journey — and yes, I just used the



word journey — I learned comedy through improv first. So for me, I learned to do scripted comedy through performance."

The process of turning spontaneous ideas into scripted work from McDonald's stage days also carried over to Kids in the Hall's TV show, helping to define the group's humour. Originally a stage troupe that performed every Monday at the Rivoli in Toronto, the group went on to a successful five-season run on CBC that wrapped up in 1995, followed by a feature film. The troupe's sketches often parodied topics then considered risky — like sex, gay culture and the corporate world.

McDonald remembers that during their time as a stage troupe, the writing was done in a group, with an off-the-cuff style. But after the jump to television, the group faced new challenges as their creative process became a little more formulaic and isolated. He sarcastically laments that his solo writing was not always well-received by the other members.

"We would bring ideas that people had into the room, and the ideas we liked we would start acting on scene, improvising over and over," McDonald says of the early days of *KITH*. "When we got the TV show, we were forced to sit down in front of these things they called 'computers,' and then it became a little less communal."

While McDonald also has experience doing solo writing and stand-up, he's adamant that he feels most comfortable creating and performing in an ensemble. He and *KITH* castmate Scott Thompson recently wrapped up a

short US stand-up tour, which helped make the solo performance process a little less lonely for McDonald.

"I like being able to blame somebody," he jokes about his preference for collaboration. "I always thought my comedy was better when I was reacting to something that somebody else did. Stand-up is a lonely thing and I'm not technically very good at it. When I do stand-up, I'm more of a character: a guy that's trying to do stand-up."

"Back in the TV show days (Thompson and I) thought we were lousy writers because a lot of the sketches bombed — a lot of them didn't make it to air," McDonald continues. "But we actually are good writing together. We find that if we try to sit down and write it, we can't do that — we're in trouble. But if we get an idea, put it up on scene and then rehearse it a few times, it usually turns out pretty good."

With the combination of McDonald's comedic expertise and love for creative teamwork, this self-described "boring old comedy guy" has plenty of valuable advice to offer budding comedians and writers. He promises his stop in Edmonton will be an experience full of laughs and hopefully a little education.

"It's going to be fun. I might do stand-up there, and then you can see me do my sad stand-up on purpose," he laughs. "So hopefully it's funny bad stand-up. And hopefully you will learn something."

"And I love you," he quickly adds, proving the theatre really does inspire affection.



Shame a tough but tasteful portrayal of sex addiction

FILM REVIEW

Shame

WHEN > Now playing

WHERE > Princess Theatre
(10337 82 Ave.)

WRITTEN BY > Abi Morgan and
Steve McQueen

DIRECTED BY > Steve McQueen

STARRING > Michael Fassbender and
Carey Mulligan

Ravanne Lawday

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ■ @RAVIIZAHARKO

While the majority of its scenes are filled with nudity, *Shame* prevails as one of the most tasteful and sophisticated movies of the year. This racy feature holds nothing back, portraying the controversial subject of sex addiction with an honesty rarely seen in cinema.

Set in present-day New York, the film tells the story of Brandon (Michael Fassbender), a man who appears to have everything: a successful career, a swanky apartment and at least one date just about every night. But the hollow life his sexual addiction creates comes to light when his troubled musician sister

Sissy (Carey Mulligan) shows up on his doorstep after a break-up of her own. With the siblings reunited, both their flaws are exposed as they attempt to find their place in “the city that never sleeps.”

A film that revolves around sex addiction would be shocking no matter how it was presented, director Steve McQueen takes a highly realistic, unedited approach that amplifies the effect of the entire film. Through the gritty cinematography and scenes that appear super realistic, it's entirely too easy to forget that this is, in fact, a film and not a documentary.

This intimacy and realism can also be attributed to the sublime performances of its stars. Fassbender creates a compelling character. His actions, body language and expressions say more than the script alone can convey. Mulligan also gives an illuminating, enigmatic performance, drawing out deep emotion with ease. The fluid communication between the two onscreen — verbally and emotionally — is just as courageous as the subject matter it examines.

While addiction is a difficult subject to approach and capture, *Shame* tells a seamless, impactful story. With the uncut nature of the

production and the inspiring efforts of the cast, an uneasy film becomes something both honest and utterly heartbreaking, even with the vast amounts of potentially distracting nudity.

It's easy to speculate that a film is nothing but a glorified porno when it's slapped with an NC-17 rating, but *Shame* comes through as classic and touching. Although sex and nudity appear frequently, the scenes fit with the down-to-earth nature of the movie, and are included with the utmost care. Many films feature sexual content as a symbol of pleasure and love, but the sex scenes in *Shame* are instead a depressant, and effectively highlight the pain involved in serious sexual addiction.

Shame is a film with a clear, underlying purpose: it provides an analysis of sex addicts and the way they function in society. Although the subject matter is sensitive and often shocking, the movie is both respectful and courageous, creating a work of art that succeeds at provoking emotion and deep thought.

Movies are often meant to act as uplifting escapism, but *Shame* does the exact opposite. The film leaves a bitter and disturbing aftertaste, but it's worthy of all the appreciation and accolades it's sure to receive.

fashion streeters

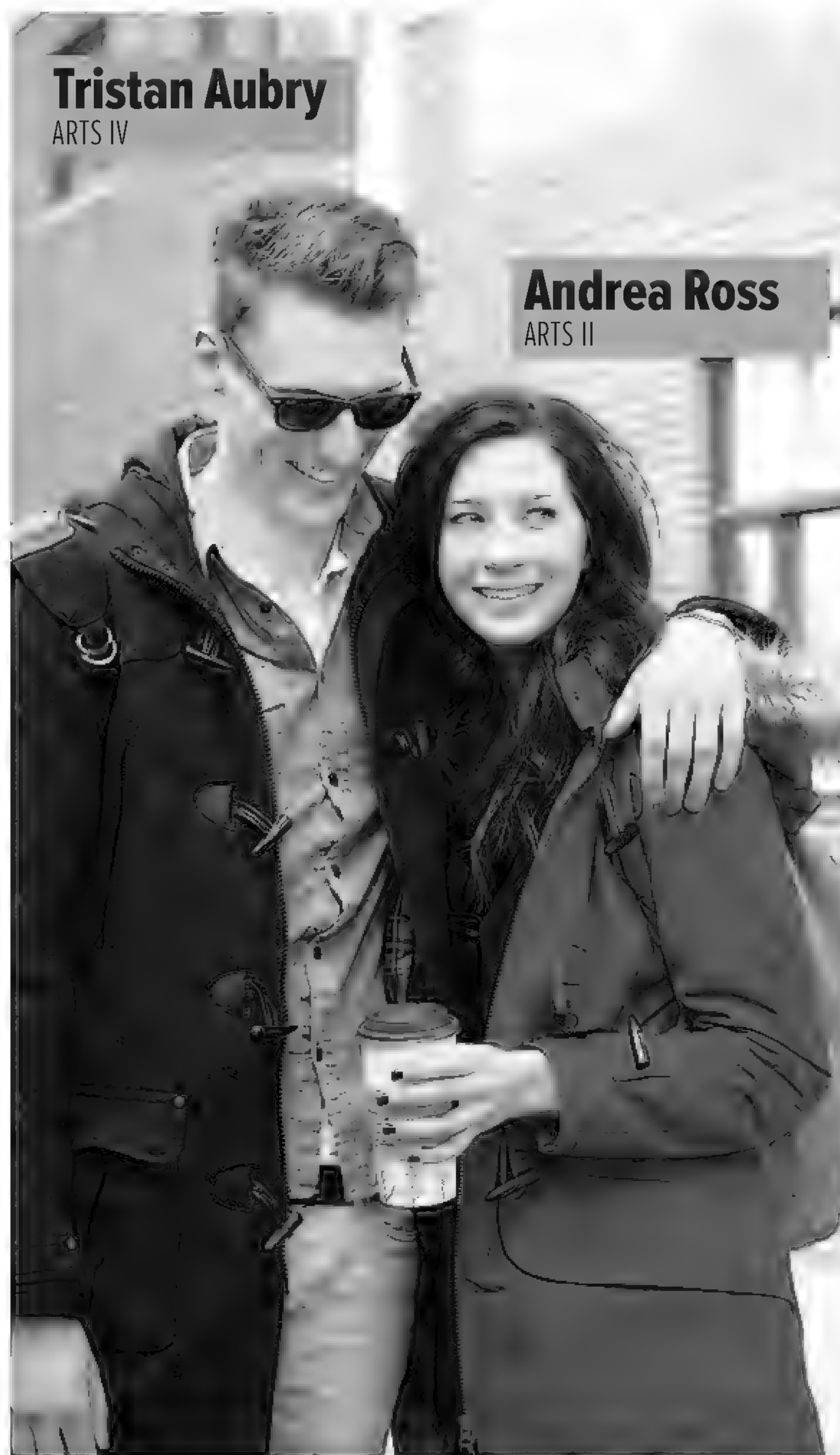
COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Jullanna Damer**

Tristan Aubry

ARTS IV

Andrea Ross

ARTS II



GATEWAY: > What's your favourite thing she's wearing?

TRISTAN: > I like her parka the best because it pops a lot and I love the toggles. I'm a big toggle guy. And the fur trimming is a nice touch.

GATEWAY: > What's your favourite thing he's wearing?

ANDREA: > I like his boots and I like his bracelet because I bought it for him. It's from Tanner Goods in Portland.

GATEWAY: > Tell me about your backpacks.

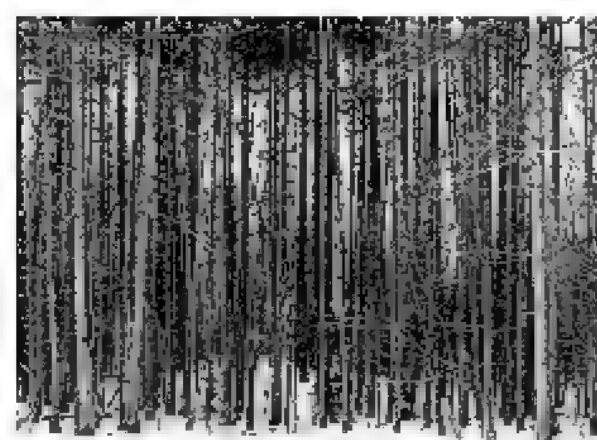
TRISTAN: > It's a funny story — I've had mine for about a year now, but she took it for a good month. I bought her that one for Christmas so she could finally have her own.

ANDREA: > They're Herschel backpacks.



Check out thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters for more photos.

ALBUM REVIEW



LAKE FOREST
SILVER SKIES

Lake Forest Silver Skies

Verité

Jeanette Blanchard
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

With all the gloomy chill of a desolate winter, Lake Forest's *Silver Skies* could make even the heartiest Canadian want to curl up next to the fire with a cup of hot chocolate.

Lake Forest is the self-proclaimed “melancholic folk music” of Will Whitwham, singer and songwriter of the Canadian group Wilderness of Manitoba. Whitwham's first solo album is inspired by a place in Illinois he read about in Dave Egger's *A Heart-Breaking Work of Staggering*

Genius and Whitwham's recurring dreams of a family cottage from his childhood. The album encapsulates a sense of chilling isolation and nostalgia towards the landscape of Canada with its reverberating vocals and haunting guitar riffs.

While the layered vocals and country guitar style are reminiscent of artists like Bon Iver and Band of Horses, Lake Forest's debut album doesn't live up to the musical prowess of its contemporaries. While tracks like

“Autumn Skies” and “Whispers” include catchy dream-like melodies and traces of unexpected country twang, the lyrics are simplistic and non-descript. Purely instrumental tracks “Teepee” and “Cathedral” are engaging and stylistically cohesive, but only intriguing due to their ambiguous titles.

Silver Skies isn't a stimulating, high-energy album, but there is beauty behind its tranquility. The track “Silver Stars” has a trance-like melody that ends with a delicate piano and Whitwham crooning about “The golden hills / in the summer time,” weaving a sense of optimism through an otherwise melancholic album.

While there's not much truly groundbreaking about *Silver Skies*, Whitman's first solo project away from Wilderness of Manitoba is a pretty, serene album that truly encapsulates the tranquility of a Canadian winter.



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Thanks for nothing, Academy

The Oscars have lost all relevance with this year's batch of disappointing nominees



Alex
Migdal
A&C COMMENTARY

A year ago, I was tasked with writing a commentary on the Oscar race, an assignment I took with an embarrassing degree of seriousness. Having viewed all the films nominated for Best Picture, I offered what I hoped at the time was an insightful and accurate take on the awards, while also taking contention with their general predictability.

And so history repeats itself: I've once again been entrusted to offer you my predictions on the Oscar race. But the tides have changed. Something is amiss in the Oscar world — maybe it has to do with the homophobic remarks made by former Oscar producer Brett Ratner, which left an ugly stain on this year's ceremony. In any case, I can no longer deny the obvious: the Oscars are a few clowns short of the circus.

The Oscars have turned into a tedious, insipid affair honouring films that are aggressively marketed in the art-house circuit while usually shunning obvious commercial and critical successes.

Let's start by addressing the elephant in the room: *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*. The 9/11 weepfest that earned a stunning 48 per cent rating on Rotten Tomatoes, somehow managed to weasel its way into the Best Picture category. Its dubious inclusion is even more disturbing considering the academy's change in voting guidelines this year that allows the category to vary from five to 10 nominees.

All right, I get it. *The Tree of Life* was a snoozer, but visually dazzling. *War Horse* bears the almighty Spielberg brand. And *The Help*, despite its Disneyfication of racial tensions in the Deep South, was fueled by some noteworthy performances. But *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*? Why do cinematic duds starring Sandra Bullock always seem to hypnotize the Academy?

Adding insult to injury, the film has been nominated despite the omission of some actually outstanding films this year, including *Bridesmaids* and the second installment of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*. But the Academy's steadfast refusal to recognize comedies or fantasies is a whole other problem unto itself.

You see, the Oscars often have little to do with cinematic quality. As the last act of the awards season, the Oscars tend to adopt the herd mentality, following the whims of guilds and critic circles around the country (excluding its troll counterpart, the Golden Globes). And there are statistics to prove it. Over the past decade, 90 per cent of the Directors Guild Award recipients have also nabbed the Oscar for Best Picture. Thus, it's a near-statistical certainty that *The Artist* will strike major Oscar gold this year.

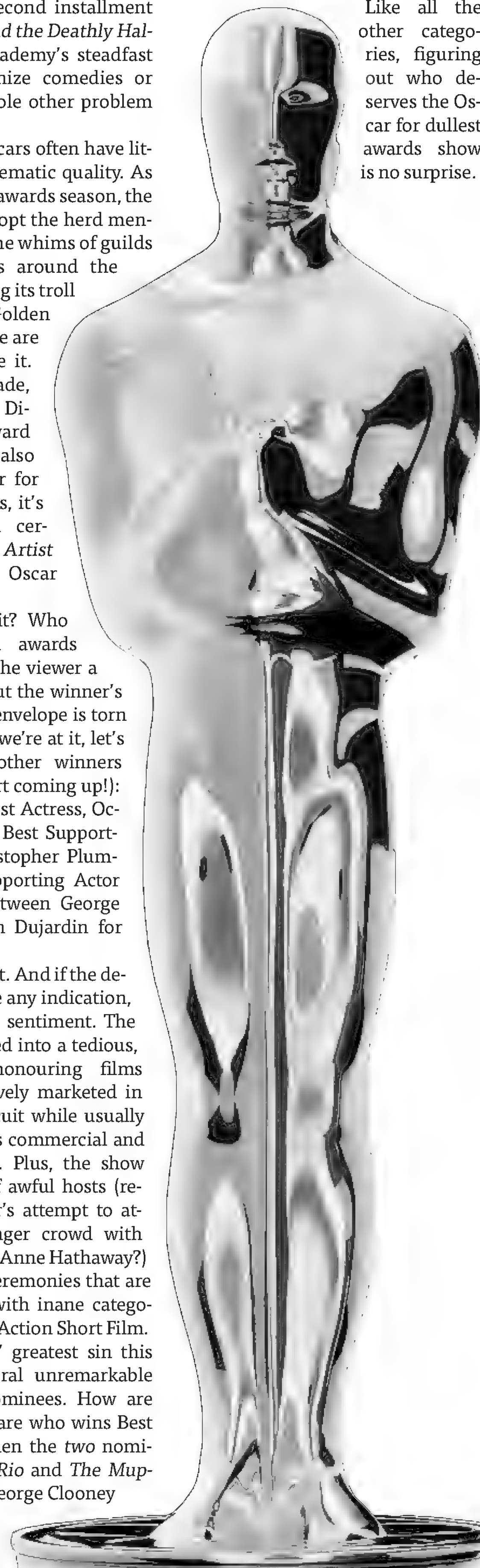
Exciting, isn't it? Who doesn't love an awards show that offers the viewer a chance to blurt out the winner's name before the envelope is torn open? Hey, while we're at it, let's declare all the other winners (major spoiler alert coming up!): Viola Davis for Best Actress, Octavia Spencer for Best Supporting Actress, Christopher Plummer for Best Supporting Actor and a toss-up between George Clooney and Jean Dujardin for Best Actor.

Yawn, I'm over it. And if the declining ratings are any indication, viewers share my sentiment. The Oscars have turned into a tedious, insipid affair, honouring films that are aggressively marketed in the art-house circuit while usually shunning obvious commercial and critical successes. Plus, the show attracts a bevy of awful hosts (remember last year's attempt to attract a hip younger crowd with James Franco and Anne Hathaway?) in long-winded ceremonies that are made torturous with inane categories like Best Live Action Short Film.

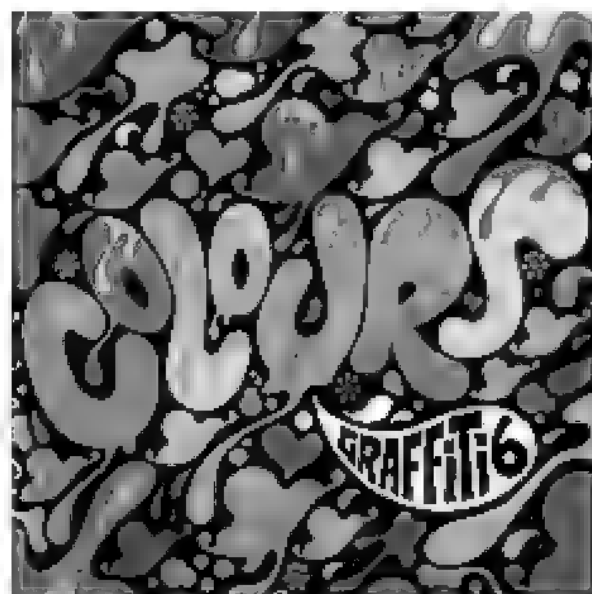
But the Oscars' greatest sin this year is the general unremarkable nature of the nominees. How are we supposed to care who wins Best Original Song when the two nominees come from *Rio* and *The Muppets*? Why does George Clooney deserve a Best Actor nod over Ryan Gosling's

performance in *Drive*, which wasn't even nominated? As for Viola Davis versus Meryl Streep — who cares? They both did great as always.

Like all the other categories, figuring out who deserves the Oscar for dullest awards show is no surprise.



ALBUM REVIEW



Graffiti6 Colours

Capitol Records
graffiti6.com

Ramneek Tung
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

It's been five years since Jamie Scott's debut album *Park Bench Theories* — a formulaic dud that failed to live up to expectations after Scott listed greats like Stevie Wonder, Cat Stevens and Jeff Buckley as his influences. The songwriting showed promise, but the production was ultimately forgettable.

Fortunately, Jamie Scott has found a new producer in TommyD

— the man famed for producing Right Said Fred's "I'm Too Sexy." Together, the Brits form the duo Graffiti6. While their debut LP *Colours* is by no means the second coming of Wonder, Stevens or Buckley, it offers some solid, ambitious music.

The album takes a few tracks to settle into its rhythm, and the initial songs, although passable, sound like the generic soundtrack that

would play in an Urban Outfitters store. But as the trip-hop melody of fourth track "This Man" sinks in, the record starts deliver — although its success is erratic.

The major problem with the album is that there's no consistent sound — it's a never-ending experiment with genres. While its ambition is admirable, albums need a consistent feel to avoid sounding like an amateur mixtape. Graffiti6's experimentation creates a few solid numbers, like the minimalist "Over You" and title track "Colours," which sounds like an outtake from Radiohead's *In Rainbows*. But the album as a whole, although mostly satisfying, could have been better. Graffiti6 will likely find more success if the duo ease up on their affinity toward every genre imaginable.

Studio Theatre unwinds *Cymbeline's* complex twists

THEATRE REVIEW

Cymbeline

WHEN > Runs until Saturday, Feb. 18 at 7:30 p.m.
WHERE > Timms Centre for the Arts (87 Avenue and 112 Street)
WRITTEN BY > William Shakespeare
DIRECTED BY > Kathleen Weiss
STARRING > Alyson Dicey, Evan Hall and Brent Gill
HOW MUCH \$10 at the Timms Centre box office

Katherine Speur
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF • @KATHERINESPEUR

Shakespeare's plays always have the potential to be dense and difficult to understand. But the BFA acting class of 2012 has proven it's possible to make the intricate script of the Bard's *Cymbeline* into something accessible and entertaining, with a production that showcases the value of the proper representation of a story in creating compelling theatre.

The story begins as King Cymbeline (Brent Gill) discovers that his daughter Imogen (Alyson Dicey) has secretly married her childhood friend and lover Posthumous (Evan Hall). Furious at the news, Cymbeline banishes Posthumous to Rome and arranges for Imogen to marry the son of his new queen, Cloten (Nikolai Witschl). Imogen and Posthumous must face endless complications in order to see each other again.

Like many other Shakespearean plays, *Cymbeline* is an amalgamation of genres. Drama, comedy and



SELENA PHILLIPS-BOYLE

action are all wrapped up in a neat little bundle, making the play both exciting and engaging. Banishment and vengeance are the main sources of conflict in the story, providing for a generous helping of bloody death scenes and angry monologues. But with a touch of humour added to the high drama the play demands, the cast of this production keeps it from becoming insincere.

Nikolai Witschl, stepping in on short notice to play the role of Cloten, creates a lively and engaging representation of one of the show's most humorous characters. Witschl's portrayal of Cloten's vengeful thoughts and comical movements

make for an entertaining performance, and he seems to draw attention every time he appears on stage.

Although the play is full of action, love and lust make up an important part of the central conflict. Imogen, repeatedly described as a goddess-like creature, makes admirers of nearly every man she meets with the simple power of her gaze. Dicey's acting brings out Imogen's vibrant and fearless personality, and although she and Evan Hall as Posthumous share very little stage time, their relationship is emotionally consuming, with passionate and realistic chemistry.

Cymbeline has been criticized as

one of Shakespeare's least cohesive plays, but the story becomes crystal clear with the actors' skillful treatment of the script and dramatic body language. Even the ways they navigate the stage bring out Shakespeare's powerful language. Far from a long, tedious play full of non-stop dialogue, the cast of *Cymbeline* brings out Shakespeare's strong words with movement. The complex language doesn't stop the audience from appreciating the story — instead, it immerses them in a fantasy world.

With a setting reminiscent of a fairytale, *Cymbeline's* sequence of events isn't necessarily historically accurate. But it doesn't seem to

matter: instead, the stage becomes a surreal world where the actors' use of the stage creates a space that seems to stretch out beyond the confines of the theatre. The stage is a creative space all on its own, where actors move between time and space, sometimes even hanging like acrobats from silks dangling from the ceiling.

As one of Shakespeare's lesser-known works, Studio Theatre's production of *Cymbeline* is as satisfying esthetically as it is emotionally. While it may seem intimidating to take in, far from being overwhelming, the play leaves behind a feeling of impressed satisfaction.

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GFC COMMITTEES: STUDENTS NEEDED

The terms of office for students serving on General Faculties Council (GFC) Standing Committees, Appeal Boards and committees to which GFC elects members will expire on April 30, 2012. Undergraduate and graduate students (as noted) are encouraged to apply now to serve on any of the following committees for terms of office beginning May 1, 2012 and ending April 30, 2013. (Some students currently serving on these committees may be seeking re-election to serve additional terms.)

Committee	Student Vacancies	Meeting Times (normally monthly)
ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (APC): GFC's senior committee dealing with academic, financial and planning issues.	ONE undergraduate & ONE graduate at-large	2:00 pm/twice monthly, Alternating Wednesdays
ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE (ASC): GFC committee dealing with admissions, academic standing, transfer and examination policies and other related issues.	ONE undergraduate at-large	9:00 am/3 rd Thursday (to be confirmed)
CAMPUS LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE (CLRC): Reviews Code of Student Behaviour, Code of Applicant Behaviour and Residence Community Standards	TWO students at-large (undergraduate and/or graduate)	9:30 am/4 th Thursday (to be confirmed)
COMMITTEE ON THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT: Promotes an optimal learning environment in alignment with guiding documents of the University of Alberta.	ONE undergraduate & ONE graduate at-large	2:00 pm/1 st Wednesday
FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (FDC): Recommends on planning and use of facilities, proposed buildings, and parking and transportation facilities.	ONE undergraduate at-large	1:30 pm/4 th Thursday
UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE (UASC): Approves new awards for undergraduate students including selection and eligibility criteria.	TWO undergraduates at-large	2:00 pm/2 nd Tuesday
UNIVERSITY TEACHING AWARDS COMMITTEE (UTAC): Adjudicates the Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, the William Hardy Alexander Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, The Provost's Award for Early Achievement of Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, and the Teaching Unit Award.	TWO undergraduates & ONE graduate at-large	Normally three times a year (October, April, and June)
GFC ACADEMIC APPEALS COMMITTEE (AAC) / UNIVERSITY APPEAL BOARD (UAB): AAC hears and decides student appeals regarding academic standing. UAB hears and decides student appeals and applicant appeals regarding disciplinary decisions made under the Code of Student Behaviour or Code of Applicant Behaviour.	AAC: THREE undergraduate & TWO graduates UAB: SIX undergraduates & THREE graduates To allow for overlapping student terms, it is highly desirable for applicants to be able to serve 2 year terms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students will normally participate in 4 to 5 hearings per year.Hearings are scheduled as needed Monday to Thursday.Hearings normally start anytime between 3:00 pm and 5:30 pm, and typically last 3 to 5 hours. Students should have flexible evening schedules two nights a week (including spring/summer months).
COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS (COSA): The aim of the Council is the betterment of the quality of student life at the University of Alberta.	ONE undergraduate & ONE graduate who must be members of GFC at the time of election	Afternoons/normally 3 rd Monday (September to March)

Student Application forms are downloadable at www.governance.ualberta.ca (navigate to University Governance Tool-Kit), and also available at University Governance, Room 3-20, University Hall. Details specific to GFC and GFC Standing Committees are provided on-line.

Student applications should be completed and returned to University Governance by **Monday, March 5, 2012**. For information regarding committee membership and terms of reference, students are invited to contact: Ann Hodgson, Coordinator to the GFC Nominating Committee (NC), at 492-1938, or by e-mail: ann.hodgson@ualberta.ca.

NOTE: There are current **STUDENT VACANCIES** on the **2011-2012 GFC ACADEMIC APPEALS COMMITTEE (AAC) / UNIVERSITY APPEAL BOARD (UAB)** for both undergraduate & graduates students. If you are interested, and would like more information, inquiries should be directed to Ms Iva Spence, Appeals Coordinator, University Governance at iva.spence@ualberta.ca.

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Fool for Love exposes the dark underbelly of passion

THEATRE PREVIEW

Fool for Love

WHEN Runs Thursday, Feb. 16
Sunday, March 4 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday
matinées at 2 p.m.

WHERE > Varscona Theatre
(10329-83 Avenue)

WRITTEN BY > Sam Shepard

DIRECTED BY > John Hudson

STARRING > Jamie Konchak,
David MacInnis, Kevin
Rothery and Shaun
Johnston

HOW MUCH > Starting at \$15 at
tixonthesquare.ca

Jane Voloboeva

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

In love, forbidden fruit always seems to taste sweeter. With a taboo tale of infatuation, Sam Shepard's *Fool for Love* explores a dark and hopeless relationship as its characters struggle with the impossible task of escaping a past that haunts them.

The play tells the story of Eddie (David MacInnis) and May (Jamie Konchak), former lovers whose deep, shameful secret about the true nature of their relationship prevented their own happily-ever-after ending. Their story is revealed through a conversation in an abandoned motel where Eddie unexpectedly confronts May, leading both down a dark rabbit hole of grief and anger. Far from a straightforward, romantic

comedy-style love story, the emotional production sees Eddie and May struggle with societal barriers and their own inner demons as they grapple with their feelings for each other.

Given the difficulty of the issues at hand in the production, some playwrights may be inclined to guide the audience's interpretation of their characters. But Shepard's script lets the audience decide how to interpret the play's messages for themselves, regardless of the incriminating nature of the topics at hand.

"Some writers are really good at showing the dirt of humanity — how awful we can be to each other — and then some writers are pretty flowery, and they avoid the mud," says Konchak, who plays May. "But with Sam Shepard, what he does really well is combining both elements into each character. You really do get to see some horrid behaviour from everybody, but then the motivation or drive behind those choices redeems the behaviour."

"There's no white hat or black hat — it's morally ambiguous," adds MacInnis. "To add to the relevancy in the modern world, our audiences now are more sophisticated in that they can handle moral ambiguity. It's no longer us versus them."

The moral struggle in *Fool for Love* sees Eddie and May meet on a mental battleground. The demons that plague their lives come from within, and as they struggle with their own emotions and with each other, their story becomes universally relatable, despite the extreme circumstances.

"I think that this is what the conflict is about: higher logical decisions versus basic emotional impulses," MacInnis says. "While people are watching this play, I want them to think, 'I've been here, I know these people, I am these people.' I want people to feel while they're watching and think while they're leaving."

And as Konchak explains, it's the play's examination of the difficulties of love that makes it relevant to audiences, even decades after its premiere.

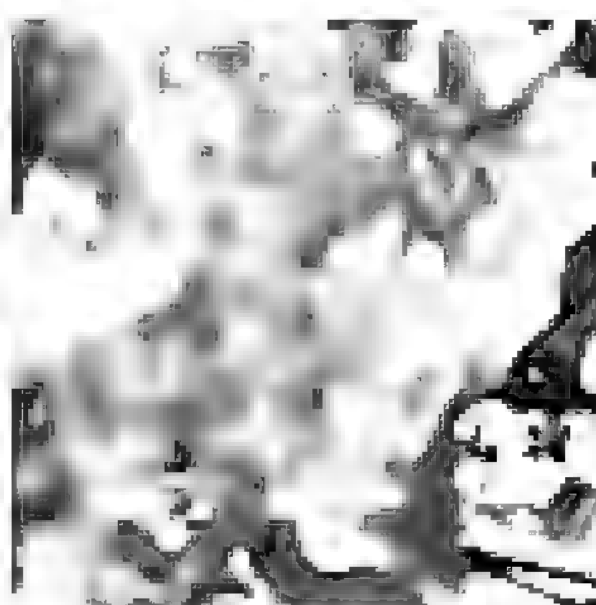
"There are different kinds of love: there's lust, infatuation, obsession — all different layers of what love can be. How many ways can you push it? How can love still possibly exist when you go through all of this pain and the love still remains? How is that possible?" Konchak muses. "Love is a really complex notion, and I think you can keep writing about it until the end of time."

While *Fool for Love* examines a common topic, Shepard manages to give the subject matter in his play an engaging and unsettling twist. Even though the dark drama presents some difficult moral issues, they're impossible to turn away from as the production pulls audiences into its world.

"That's part of Shepard's genius: intellectually, you're thinking that you should recoil, but emotionally, you can't. It's what drama is all about," MacInnis says.

"Every time we think we have something figured out, it gets turned on its head in this play — and in life too — as far as love goes."

ALBUM REVIEW



Actual Water *The Paisley Orchard*

Unfamiliar Records

Katherine Speur

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF • @KATHERINESPEUR

Actual Water's *The Paisley Orchard* is a clever concoction of noise. The music sounds like '60s psychedelia, modern punk and classic rock all blended together, with abstract touches like sound effects and voice samples.

The band's experimental nature shines though every song, making each one distinct from the next. The album requires a few listens before an appreciation for the music sets in — giving this disc a second and maybe

third chance is key. If you let it grow on you, you might find yourself coming back to it over and over. While the lyrics are sometimes impossible to understand underneath the layers of sound, it adds to the album's dreamy effect. And while deciphering the songs is a challenge, the complexity of the music can't be considered a fault.

Actual Water also has no problem switching between musical styles,

showing off their technical skill and keeping the album interesting. While some tracks are crammed with words and sounds, a select few are purely instrumental. Amongst grungy garage rock and screaming guitars, "Cyclamen Dew" sounds more like the soundtrack to a retro Disney cartoon. But it doesn't make the album disorganized: Actual Water separates the harsh moments from the mellow ones in such a way that gives the listener a chance to gradually process each melody.

The Paisley Orchard is not for the closed-minded folk — it's an exploration of new musical grounds, allowing listeners to explore a higher state of musical consciousness. If you're up for getting lost in a world of interesting and bizarre sounds, lock yourself in your room and turn this album up loud.

Putting the power of darkness in players' hands

GAME REVIEW

The Darkness II

PUBLISHER > 2K Games
DEVELOPER > Digital Extremes
PLATFORM > PS3, Xbox 360 and PC

Ryan Bromsgrove
OPINION EDITOR • @RYAWESOME

The only truly bad thing about *The Darkness II* is how quickly the end comes. In every other category, it stomps all over its predecessor like Godzilla in a tiny town made of Lego. The game-play is satisfying and fluid, the story and voice acting are solid and engaging and the visuals make you feel like you're in a vivid and colourful graphic novel. In short, nearly everything about this sequel is an improvement on its predecessor.

A couple years have passed since the last game left off, and protagonist Jackie Estacado is now the head of a crime family in New York. He's still mourning the death of his girlfriend Jenny, and while he's managed to keep *The Darkness* — an ancient being living within his body — in check, it's not long before he's forced to use it to fight off a cult-like order that wants to take his power.

In the previous game, the powers of *The Darkness* were awesome, but a little clumsy to use. Now, Jackie can take full control of what the game calls "quad-wielding." You can use one two-handed rifle or shotgun, or handguns in one or both hands, and at the same time control two demon arms living on each side of the screen. One is used for slashing in eight different directions, and the other for grabbing, throwing and gruesomely executing your enemies. While it sounds a little complicated, everything works together seamlessly. Grab a car door and use it as a shield while gunning down enemies, then fling it across the room to slice them up. Get in close to the survivors and slap them around



before picking one up and replenishing your health by eating his heart.

On top of all that, Jackie has even more abilities, including stunning enemies by unleashing a swarm of darkness and shooting through walls. Darklings, impish creatures that follow the player around, also make a return. While there's only one this time, he's fleshed out and developed as his own character, helping you by leaping on enemies, exploring places you can't go and even pissing on the corpses of your enemies.

Then in the Vendetta mode, a parallel online-cooperative-optional campaign, the player has the option of controlling one of four distinct characters. While none of them are as developed as Jackie, they each have one of his darkness abilities and a unique weapon of their own. Jimmy wields a boomerang-like axe and Inugami tears through enemies with a katana. The sheer number of ways to dispatch enemies in this game is beyond impressive and serves to showcase the full extent of the powers of

The Darkness — and you feel like an absolute badass.

But the game would get old fast if you didn't have some sort of weakness. When you step into well-lit areas of the map, you get blinded fast, limiting your powers to your guns. Shooting out the lights then becomes just as important as killing your foes, and while the game does shake things up a bit by throwing a few lights that you have to turn off by destroying a generator, the number of bulletproof lights hampering your progress stretches believability a little too far.

Nevertheless, the use of lighting is a big part of the visual theme, and it's refreshing to see a developer daring enough to use the entire colour wheel in today's environment of realistically dreary grey-brown first-person shooters. *The Darkness* games are based off the graphic novels, and the artistic direction of this instalment reflects that origin with exquisite style. Whether hanging around Jackie's mansion talking to his associates, trying to escape the dream-world mental hospital or exploring a

closed-down amusement park, the world is rich and beautiful — before you bloody it up with dismembered body parts.

The short length is disappointing, but the presence of the Vendetta campaign makes up for it a little, with each character bringing their own delightful personality to the missions. The storytelling also doesn't live up to its predecessor, lacking scenes with some of the nice subtle touches the first game had, like watching TV with Jenny on the sofa, but it does end on the right notes.

While there are a few flaws with the game, they're more than outweighed by the pure fun of tearing through Jackie's enemies. And accompanied by the unmistakable guttural screams and twisted growling of musician Mike Patton, *The Darkness* taunts your reliance on him every step of the way — and that just makes it cooler. Not every sequel manages to break free of the shadow of the original, but *The Darkness II* is one fantastic reinvention, begging for a full trilogy.

Kingdoms of Amalur finds its own footing in the gaming world

GAME REVIEW

Kingdoms of Amalur: Reckoning

PUBLISHER > 38 Studios
DEVELOPER > 38 Studios
PLATFORM > PS3, Xbox 360 and PC

Jordan Ching
ONLINE EDITOR • @JECHYNGE

Even before its release, *Kingdoms of Amalur: Reckoning*, was being compared to other games. It's frequently measured against *World of Warcraft*, and similarities to *Skyrim* are nearly impossible to ignore. But the influences don't matter if the game can't stand on its own merits, which *Kingdoms of Amalur* has no problem doing.

Fate is the core plot device in the game, and it's established early on that all citizens of the world of Amalur are bound by whatever their fate holds for them. Certain people, called fateweavers, can even read fate with pinpoint accuracy, up to and including death. Then, your character is introduced, promptly ruining this well-established order.

You wake up in a heap of rotting corpses, suffering from a typical case of Protagonist's Amnesia. Having been resurrected by gnomes seeking to solve the mysteries of mortality, you soon discover that you're now a blank slate not bound by destiny, and can change the fates of those around you. *Kingdoms of Amalur* does a good job giving you enough reminders that your actions



are screwing up the natural order of things without getting so repetitive in the cutscenes. And while the game's premise isn't exactly mind-blowing, it's at least a decently clever framing device for your actions.

After getting the story sorted out, the combat is easily the best part of *Kingdoms of Amalur*. Fast-paced and fluid, there's always a sense of accomplishment when you manage to clear out a room of enemies without taking a single hit.

There are myriad different ways to approach a fight, from dodging around your enemies and landing quick strikes to stunning them with magic before moving in with a greatsword. If you'd rather opt for stealth, some confrontations can be avoided altogether with careful planning. But however you

approach a fight, you always have a plethora of tools at your disposal to make your enemy's day very unpleasant, and using them to their maximum effect is incredibly satisfying.

"Reckoning mode" is particularly fantastic, as you basically get to be a wrecking ball on two legs. You have to build up a "fate meter" in order to use it, but it strikes the perfect balance between being available too often and being usable so infrequently that you're scared of wasting it. Executed correctly, you can take down several powerful foes in a matter of seconds and receive a massive experience bonus in the process.

The biggest issue with the combat is that it's easy to become stunned, basically meaning that if

you take the first hit, you'll take them all. It feels unfair, since enemies don't seem to suffer from the same problem — they frequently break through your blows to give you a good wallop.

At other times, the game's AI can be exceptionally dull-witted. For example, after sneaking up on a pair of brutes twice my size, I managed to kill one immediately using a stealth kill. After a quick yet elaborate death animation, the other enemy hadn't noticed either the noises of distress or the wild flailings of his now deceased comrade from no more than five feet away.

Outside of combat, the world of Amalur is also esthetically pleasing. Liberal doses of colour through a variety of regions, all with their own character, do a great deal to dis-


tract from the world's relative small scope. The soundtrack and voice acting are also well done, though the silent protagonist and single-word conversation prompts make interactions feel a bit one-sided.

The combat is easily the best part of Kingdoms of Amalur. Fast-paced and fluid, there's always a sense of accomplishment when you manage to clear out a room of enemies without taking a single hit

When you aren't fighting, crafting and smithing activities also help keep you busy. Though they're not necessary to pursue, they offer a way to help even the odds in particularly difficult fights. There are also plenty of side quests and a few different combat factions to get involved with. But whereas in *Skyrim* it was easy to have your quest log inundated with 30 tasks at a time, *Kingdoms of Amalur* doesn't give you so much to do that it feels like a chore.

While it may draw comparisons to an endless number of titles on the market, *Kingdoms of Amalur: Reckoning* is still a solid game in itself. It has a couple flaws that hold it back from being amazing, but its clean, vibrant visuals and frenzied, engaging combat do a lot to make up for those blemishes. If you're an RPG fan, there's no reason pass over this title.

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by WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

adapted and directed by
Kathleen Weiss

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COMPILED BY Alana Willerton

One Direction

Move over, Justin Bieber: there's a new teen sensation sweeping the nation and their name is One Direction. Third place finishers in the 2010 season of Britain's *X Factor*, the five boys who make up One Direction have captured my heart with their first album, *Up All Night*, which has gone viral in Canada.

Comprised of five uncommonly

gorgeous-looking boys ranging in age from 18 to 20, they each have the uncanny ability of looking like they've come straight out of the pages of *GQ*. Take Niall, the only blond in the group, who just happens to resemble a prepubescent version of the Greek god Apollo. Or Harry, whose adorable mop of curls has girls screaming for the chance to have his children. And then there's Zayn, Louis, Liam — even their names are unbelievably trendy.

Of course, their stunning looks could be seen as a disadvantage of sorts. When I first discovered One Direction, I'll admit that I was skeptical that any sound worth listening to could come from those cherubic lips. But this is one

occasion where I'm happy to admit that I was completely wrong. There's no way anyone could listen to their first single, "What Makes You Beautiful," and deny the catchiness of their sugary lyrics.

Listening to One Direction may inspire you to break out into overly-hyper dance moves at every opportunity. With picture-perfect faces and voices to match, make no mistake about it: One Direction is definitely on their way to achieving global musical domination.

The Finer Things is a semi-regular feature in which Gateway pop culture pundits point to a particularly relevant or pretentious example of art celebrating it for all of its subjective merit.



ALBUM REVIEW



Boys Who Say No *Contingencies*

Independent
boyswhosayno.com

Justin Andrade
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

Some albums are instant classics, destined to captivate audiences for generations to come. *Contingencies*, the new album by Boys Who Say No, is definitely not one of those albums. Hell, you'll probably wonder why the Boys didn't just say "no" to releasing this album.

At a basic level, *Contingencies* is

a generally boring album. It seems heavily influenced by British indie-rock, but by drawing too much on those influences, it comes across as unoriginal and uninspired. The album also lacks clear focus, wandering aimlessly through tracks ranging from the energetic opening of "Atonement" to the alt-country feel

of "You, Me, & the Devil." Overall, *Contingencies* just sounds hollow, like it's missing a vital part.

While many of *Contingencies'* issues seem to stem from a lack of imagination, the vocals sound like the band is trying too hard to cram too many ideas into the songs. Lead singer Luke Correia-Damude spends the album trying to show off a wide vocal range without hitting any of the notes particularly well. He also has a whiny, nasal quality to his voice. When he tries to hit the high notes, it just ends up sounding grating.

Contingencies is Boys Who Say No's first full-length release, so there's hope for future improvements. For now, this mediocre album is better left on the shelf.

ALBUM REVIEW



First Aid Kit *The Lion's Roar*

Wichita Records
thisisfirstaidkit.com

Justin Andrade
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

First Aid Kit's latest album, *The Lion's Roar*, is more like a house cat than a lion. It's a laid-back listen that's occasionally grating, but also has a certain charm that makes it worthwhile.

The Lion's Roar maintains a light-hearted feel with a few melancholic tracks sprinkled throughout.

"Dance to Another Tune" and the album's title track create a well-balanced feel. The twangy acoustic guitars and stunning female vocals make it an easily accessible album, even if you're not particularly fond of the folk, alt-country sound that characterizes the duo's music.

First Aid Kit has an uncanny

ability to create vivid imagery in their songs, from the banality of growing old together in "This Old Routine" to the strain of a long-distance relationship in "To a Poet." But on the other side of the album's evocative lyrics, the subject matter borders on tired and emotionally forced. With lines like, "I have a lot to learn and I'm starting tonight," "New Year's Eve" sounds more like a generic description of the resolutions you've inevitably failed to accomplish than an earnest attempt to change for the better.

The Lion's Roar may not be as majestic as a real lion, but with its soft sounds the group's sophomore effort is a promising addition to First Aid Kit's repertoire.

Sports

Sports Editor
Rebecca Medel
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780.492.6652
Email
sports@gateway.ualberta.ca
Volunteer
Sports meetings Thursdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

Puck Pandas host Huskies in first round of playoffs

HOCKEY PREVIEW

Pandas vs. Huskies

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 17-19
Clare Drake Arena, 2 p.m.

Rebecca Medel
SPORTS EDITOR

A season of strong play has paid off for the puck Pandas. As the second-place team in Canada West, they've earned the right to host the University of Saskatchewan Huskies in the first round of playoffs this weekend.

"I think everyone's feeling relieved that we've clinched second and we don't have to go back to Saskatchewan," head coach Howie Draper said.

The Huskies and Pandas have been at each other's throats all season, with the Huskies beating the Pandas in three out of four matches between the two, twice in overtime and once by a single point. It was the 14-3-7 Pandas' seven overtime wins overall that helped them stay one step ahead of the 16-6-2 Huskies in the final standings. The results of this weekend's best-of-three will determine who continues on to CanWest finals Feb. 24-26.

"I would imagine they're of the feeling that this is going to be one of the best opportunities that they've had in a while to get to nationals. They're a very strong team and very potent offensively, so I would think that they're chomping at the bit to get going," Draper said. "They don't really have a lot of weakness. They've got a lot of depth from their first to their fourth lines and they've got some players that can put the puck away if given the chance and they've got strong goaltending."

With that kind of opposition stacked against them, the Pandas will be stepping up

their own game. Draper said playoff mentality is different from regular season because with so much on the line the whole execution of play is upped and it's "not unlike watching the NHL playoffs."

The Pandas are entering the games against Saskatchewan on a high note. Last weekend, the Green and Gold ended their regular season with two wins on the road in Regina — 3-0 on Friday and 3-2 on Saturday. Draper is hopeful that the intensity he saw in those games will carry over into playoffs.

"The first game, I felt Regina started off strong. Then we got the first goal and that seemed to deflate them a little bit, and we built on that," he said. "The second game again we got the first goal, and the first two periods I felt we pretty much owned. The third period was the last period of their season so they came out and threw everything that they could at us, and as a result they got us on our heels a bit and almost managed to stage a comeback."

"The great thing about that period was that it was one of the first times that we showed that we're able to be resilient and hold the fort when the other team was vying for that tying goal."

The Pandas are also hoping Calgary falls to Lethbridge this weekend. If the Dinos and the Pandas both win, Calgary will host finals — otherwise it will be home ice again for the Green and Gold.

And while as hosts the Pandas are guaranteed a spot at nationals March 8-11, the better they do in these two rounds of playoffs, the higher up the team will be seeded. Draper said he'd like to see his team seeded higher than fifth or sixth, where they've been placed the past couple years.

Games against the Huskies are best-of-three this Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Clare Drake Arena.



FILE PHOTO: JUSTIN BELL

Last conference games crucial for hockey Bears as they host 'Horns

HOCKEY PREVIEW

Bears vs. 'Horns

Friday and Saturday, Feb. 17-18
Clare Drake Arena, 7 p.m.

Rebecca Medel
SPORTS EDITOR

Despite only one weekend of regular season games left for the hockey Bears — who have already nabbed their playoff spot and are sitting at number two in Canada West at 18-6-2 — this weekend's games matter for a few reasons.

Other than the obvious 'play every game like a playoff game' mantra, Bears head coach Stan Marple

summed up the importance of this weekend's two home games against the University of Lethbridge Pronghorns.

"If we can get two wins, we're guaranteed a second place and a bye in the first round (of playoffs). If we lose one then we're depending on Saskatchewan also to lose one because they're only a point behind us. There's a slight possibility we could finish first if we win both our games at home and Winnipeg dropped a game in regulation to UBC. But we can't control that, so we don't worry about it. We've just got to make sure that we do our job and get these two wins."

If the Bears get their two wins they'll bypass the first round of playoffs the following weekend

and be able to focus their efforts on preparing for hosting a team in the semi-finals March 2-4. And if they play like they did in Regina last weekend, where they took home two solid wins with 6-2 on Friday and 4-3 overtime on Saturday, they'll be set.

Marple wasn't 100 per cent pleased with the way Saturday's win came about, however.

"We played really well on Friday night — a real complete game — and then Saturday our work ethic was good in the first period, but we didn't play a very smart game. Our puck management wasn't great and we found ourselves behind the eight ball, so to speak, going down 3-0 to Regina on the road. We got one back and then Johnny

Lazo brought it to 3-2 with a great individual effort. We pulled Kurtis Mucha (from the net) with just under two minutes left. Greg Gardner tipped in a point shot for the tying goal and Johnny Lazo and Levko Koper scored a couple of nice shootout goals to get the win for us."

Despite the wins a tighter line will be needed this weekend to make sure mistakes like giving the puck away at the blue line resulting in a breakaway goal for Regina doesn't happen again.

"(Mucha) played it really well. It's just unfortunate that the inertia from the guy going to the net carried the puck just barely past the goal line. But I was really proud of (Mucha) because it's always tough to play in games when you

heavily outshoot the opposition and all the goals that we gave up were a direct result of our poor puck management."

"We just have to make sure that we bring it this weekend and hopefully get two wins against Lethbridge and hope for Manitoba to drop a couple of points at home."

The Bears' wins over Regina eliminated them from playoffs, so Lethbridge will take the sixth-place spot. UBC is guaranteed fifth and Calgary is now in fourth. The top three spots are still up for grabs with Manitoba at 18-5-3 and Saskatchewan at 17-6-3 to rival the Bears.

Games against the Pronghorns are Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Clare Drake Arena.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY CONFERENCE SEMI-FINALS

#1 Calgary Dinos host (best of three) vs. #4 Lethbridge Pronghorns, Feb. 17-19



20-4-0



14-8-2

#2 Alberta Pandas host (best of three) vs. #3 Saskatchewan Huskies, Feb. 17-19



14-3-7



16-6-2

MEN'S HOCKEY TOP SIX TO PLAYOFFS



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BEARS BASKETBALL HOST PLAYOFFS

Wrapping up the regular season with two home wins over the Brandon University Bobcats, the hoop Bears are taking a week to prepare before hosting the University of Fraser Valley Cascades in the first round of Canada West playoffs Feb. 23.

Friday's 92-53 win was the biggest point differential the Bears have scored all season. Saturday's 72-51 victory had Daniel Feguson leading the Green and Gold with 23 points, his fourth consecutive game as points leader. The Bears were not able to nab a first-place CanWest standing, but second gives them a home-berth for playoffs — where they'll play the Cascades in a best-of-three matchup.

HOOP PANDAS PREP FOR UBC GAMES

Last weekend was a welcome one for the basketball Pandas as they ended a four-game losing streak and finished the regular season fourth in Canada West with two dominating wins over the Brandon University Bobcats: 85-43 on Friday and 94-33 on Saturday.

A couple of the younger players were able to add some points to their season as second-year guard Megan Wickstrom led the team with 16 points on Friday and rookie Renee Byrne led with 14 on Saturday. The team will take this weekend off from play and prepare for the first round of playoffs when they head to UBC for the best of three on Feb. 23.

VOLLEY BEARS GEARED FOR QUARTERS

It's been an exciting season for the volleyball Bears, finishing third. The mostly highs — peppered with a few lows — have earned them a hosting berth for the first round of playoffs this weekend when they face UBC in a best-of-three.

These quarter finals are crucial as only four of the six teams will advance into the final four round the following weekend as well as on to CIS nationals at Queen's University March 8-11. The Bears had a split last weekend at Brandon University losing 3-1 to the Bobcats on Friday and sweeping them 3-0 the next night.



MATT HIR, I



MATT HIR, I

Volley Pandas set for WolfPack

VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

Pandas vs. WolfPack

Friday to Sunday, Feb. 17-19
SCSC, 6 p.m. (2 p.m. on Sunday)

Atta Almasi

SPORTS STAFF

The volleyball Pandas are looking to start their post-season in the very same way they started the regular season — with a pair of home victories over the Thompson Rivers WolfPack.

"Our preparations are the same as they are every week as we prepare for the quarter finals," said head coach Laurie Eisler. "We will need an entire team effort this weekend as TRU is playing very good volleyball."

The Pandas, who closed out their regular season with a respectable 14-6 record after a win-loss split in Brandon last weekend, notched the second-place seed in Canada West and will face the 9-11, seventh-place WolfPack when they open the

first round of the playoffs on Friday at the Saville Community Sports Centre.

"Their international players are solid and I would expect them to lead the way for the WolfPack," Eisler said, commenting on the number of skilled players that Thompson Rivers has in their lineup. "We will need to play consistently at a high level to handle their offensive power."

The playoffs remained an uncertainty for the WolfPack who had to battle with the Pandas' last opponent, the Brandon Bobcats, for the final playoff spot. Alternately, the Pandas had clinched a spot in the post-season and home court advantage weeks earlier. In the end, Thompson Rivers and Brandon ended up with the same 9-11 record with the WolfPack getting in on a tie-breaker.

The playoff format for women's volleyball works on the system of having the top seven teams in the CanWest standings qualify for post-season play with the top seed, in this case the UBC Thunderbirds, receiving both a first round bye and the honour of hosting the teams

that do get out of the quarter final round. The next six seeds then play each other for the right to punch their ticket to Vancouver next weekend in the CanWest championship; Thompson Rivers WolfPack at Alberta Pandas, Manitoba Bisons at Winnipeg Wesmen and Calgary Dinosaurs at Trinity Western Spartans.

The teams that qualify for Vancouver will then play two semi-final matches — the lowest remaining seed playing UBC — with the winners advancing to the CanWest championship game and the losers advancing to a third place match. The top three teams in Canada West, the CanWest champions, runner-up, and third place finisher will all then travel to Hamilton, Ont. and the campus of McMaster University for the CIS women's volleyball championship. There they'll compete against teams from Ontario, Quebec and Atlantic Canada for the chance to be crowned national champion.

Last year, the Pandas finished third-place in Canada West and lost to Trinity Western in the bronze medal game at the CIS championships in Quebec City.

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Wrestling dominates CanWest

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Andrew Jeffrey
SPORTS STAFF ■ @ANDREW_JEFFREY

The highlight of a strong year for the University of Alberta's wrestling program came this past weekend at the Canada West championships with an impressive showing that cemented both the Bears' and Pandas' positions as strong contenders for nationals.

The U of A traveled to Regina for the CanWest finals where the Pandas, the defending national champions, won their first CanWest championship and the Golden Bears finished in second place. The Bears were just one point shy of Regina, but it was still their best finish in the CanWest finals since they last won silver in 1989.

Head coach Owen Dawkins attributed this success to a number of factors that have been in play since he took this job in 2009.

"It's a lot of things. It's having a structure that was in place. It's coming in and trying to get the right athletes in place, getting the athletes to believe in what I'm trying to push," Dawkins said. "I think it's been a combination of many things now finally coming together and hopefully taking us to a national championship on both sides."

The year so far for the Golden Bears has been characterized by a consistent struggle with the University of Regina at the top of the team standings at each event. However, Dawkins noted that there's a



FILE PHOTO CLAUDINE CHAMPION

major age difference between the two teams that has made it a struggle for the Green and Gold to compete with Regina all year.

"Regina has got a lot more experience than we do. They've got a lot more guys that have been to the CIS championships. Our team has five first-year guys on our team going into CIS, so I think that makes for a pretty inexperienced team," Dawkins said.

That struggle will continue into the national championships, but the U of A holds an advantage here. Alberta was the only team to have a wrestler medal in each of the 10 weight classes on the men's side and each of the eight weight classes on the women's side, which means the U of A will be the only CanWest school to bring a full team to this event.

"It's a little tougher to have a solid program of guys and women," Dawkins explained. "We've managed to do that for this last year, we've been fairly consistent and I think that's a big accomplishment for our university and our program."

One of the standout players for the Golden Bears was first-year Dylan Williams who's first-place finish in the 61kg weight class winning him

CanWest Rookie of the Year. Williams' finish is made more impressive considering he shares a weight-class with Regina's three-time CanWest champion Kirk Ackerman.

Dawkins himself won the CanWest Coach of the Year on both the men's and women's sides. But he stressed his strong commitment to a team-oriented focus even when he's receiving an award.

"It's good, but it's not one of the things that I look for. I'm more about seeing how our team performs and I think that's an important thing. Seeing the team progressing is a little bit better than individual awards for myself. I had my awards back when I wrestled," Dawkins said.

That progression has raised expectations for the U of A going into the CIS championships. The Pandas' main competitor will be Brock University while the Golden Bears will be in a tight race with Regina, Concordia, McMaster and Western Ontario. But in both races Dawkins notes that the U of A will be front-runners to win.

The CIS championships will take place February 24-25 in Thunder Bay, Ont.

NHL undeserving of recent racist label



**Atta
Almasi**
SPORTS COMMENTARY

I can still remember those late Saturday nights in Toronto as a nine-year-old, trying to stay up just a little bit longer after the Leafs games had finished to catch the first period or two of the Hockey Night in Canada doubleheader. More often than not that game would feature the Edmonton Oilers. Looking back on those days, I realize that the appeal of the Oilers — why they became my second favourite team (after the Blue and White of course) — was not only that they were the team that most frequently appeared in the HNIC doubleheader and the fact that they had my favourite goaltender Tommy Salo, it was because three of their players, Mike Grier, Anson Carter, and Georges Laraque, were all — what was then somewhat of an oddity in the NHL — black.

Though the number of racial minorities, specifically African-Americans and African-Canadians playing hockey, has continued to increase dramatically in the NHL, there has also been an increased spotlight on the somewhat taboo and unspoken issue of racism in hockey. From the John Vannesbrook racial slur towards current Dallas Stars d-man, Trevor Daley, during his days with the Barrie Colts, to verbal assaults Georges Laraques endured through his minor hockey days, it's true that the hockey arena may not be the most welcoming or accepting

place at times.

This has been brought into the spotlight this season with two major “racial” incidents. The first of these incidents occurred in September during a pre-season game between the Detroit Red Wings and Philadelphia Flyers in London, Ont. when one fan thought it would be funny to throw a banana peel on the ice while the Flyers’ Wayne Simmonds, who is black, was shooting a penalty shot.

The other incident took place in early January when, during a game between the Montreal Canadiens and Florida Panthers in Florida, Panthers forward, Krys Barch, apparently asked Habs defenceman P. K. Subban if he had "slipped on a banana peel" after the young player had fallen to the ice during a fight.

The banana-throwing fan in London, who pleaded ignorance saying he didn't know that throwing a banana peel at a black hockey player could be interpreted as racist, was rightfully ridiculed by players, agents and officials around the league and fans from London for being an idiot. The Subban-Barch incident resulted in a one-game suspension for Barch. In the case of Barch, though, after it came out what was allegedly said, it seems highly unlikely that his remarks were fuelled by racism. In fact, Trevor Daley came out to defend his former teammate.

Regardless, though, the NHL had to crack down given the fact that the league had its image and public perception at stake. To their credit, they were right in assuming that they had to do something — there already exists a stigma and an

assumption that the NHL, as a 96 per cent white player league, is racist. In much of the United States, and among many U.S. media outlets such as ESPN, who hasn't shown any post-lockout games on their network, where people don't know or care much about hockey, the Barch incident further cements in their minds their incorrect assumption of hockey being a racist sport.

And the initial reports that said that Barch had used "a racial slur", underlines the fact to these same people that Subban is treated and viewed differently because of the colour of his skin and turns the focus onto his race and the lack of minorities in the sport of hockey instead of the play, game or character of the sport itself.

What's more, the idea that the league, players, or officials at the NHL level are racist is ludicrous if you listen to players like Georges Laraque and Wayne Simmonds. Both players, who are African-Canadian, say that they have never been treated differently in the NHL because of race and that they do not view their sport as one in which players who are visible minorities are subject to discrimination and prejudice. This is also echoed by other players such as Leafs' Nazim Kadri who is a Muslim of Lebanese descent.

So if racism does exist in hockey it most likely occurs before players turn pro. And maybe that is where hockey needs to turn its attention, while still looking to educate the non-hockey fans that the NHL is indeed an accepting, tolerant and welcoming place.

Family the key for CanWest volleyball points leader

Alana Willerton

SPORTS STAFF • @ALANAWILLERTON

Behind every student athlete there's a support system responsible for helping them to get where they are today. For Bears volleyball right side Mitch Irvine it comes from his family, who, despite being separated by distance, have continued their undying support from their hometown of Red Deer. Irvine is first in Canada West in kills at 279 and overall points averaging 4.7 each game.

Irvine got his start playing high school volleyball in Red Deer before moving on to become an indispensable and multiple award-winning member of Red Deer College's mens volleyball team. Deciding to stay in Red Deer out of a desire to be near his sister when she became sick in his first year of college, Irvine finally made the move to CIS volleyball at the University of Alberta last year. But the transfer to a new school hasn't stopped his grandparents and parents from watching every one of Irvine's home games. They drive over two hours each weekend to watch him play.

"My family never was into volleyball before I started playing, but they're so supportive now that I am," Irvine said. "They follow me everywhere I go to play. I can't even think of the last time my grandparents have missed a game. They knew nothing about volleyball until I started college and they've been at every single game since."

That feeling of family and support has transferred onto the court. With several rookie teammates and no graduating players on the Bears volleyball team this year, the potential for creating long-lasting relation-

ships on the team is stronger than ever. Irvine points to the continuing friendships made by last year's teammates as an example of what this year's team dynamic has burgeoned into.

"The biggest thing is that the guys that I've played with in the last year who have graduated still come to our games when they're here," Irvine said. "I know some guys are off playing pro, which is unbelievable for them, but the guys that are here always come in. We're all still really close, which never really happened in Red Deer. Maybe that's because there were more guys from different provinces, but here it's like once you're part of the family, it seems like everyone really sticks together. That's been a huge part of my experience here."

With both his family and his teammates to lean on, Irvine hasn't begun to worry about what will come after his time at U of A. A fourth-year Education student with one year of schooling left to complete, Irvine is content to wait and see whether his future will involve volleyball or teaching.

With volleyball playoffs approaching this weekend, as well as an upcoming teaching practicum in Red Deer within sight, Irvine is instead concentrating his efforts on maintaining the balance between school, volleyball and a social life, a task that he admits is often a struggle to maintain.

"Coming from a college, the university life is quite a bit harder, especially when you're playing sports," Irvine said. "Having a good work ethic and good time management is huge."

"In the first and second year of college, the main thing you wanted



THIS IS WHY I'M HOT Irvine (far left, in green) mid-spike earlier this season. FILE PHOTO: YIFENG LIU

to do is get out, have fun and play volleyball. But when you start getting into your third, fourth, fifth years, you have to know what's really important. You're here for school, and (head coach Terry Danyluk) has always been big on that. School's first — you're a student athlete. Prioritizing is huge for us."

Spending about 15 hours a week

in the gym training and practicing, the Bears are also dedicated to ensuring a good performance in this weekend's playoff games against the University of British Columbia. Irvine is confident that their hard work will pay off, and that nationals is a definite possibility for this year's young Bears volleyball team.

"There's times when we can play extremely bad and there's times where we can play phenomenal," Irvine explained. "We're just riding a roller coaster some games and we just need to keep it level. Everyone on the team is reaching for the same goal and we just have to do it one game at a time and hopefully we'll get there."

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"I love beards..."

BEARDS

A love story by Justin Bell

photos by Matt Hirji

Okay, let me rephrase that. I love *my* beard. For the past 10 years my chin has barely seen the light of day. I've had sported everything from sideburns to a chin strap.

"It makes you look older," some people would say. "It makes you look distinguished," a few would gush. It never met with as much approval from my family, but they always held their tongue when it came to my beard.

It wasn't until I decided to shave it all off that I realized how much people linked my image with facial hair. I decided to ditch it for Movember — a chance to let my face breathe again while at the same time win a silly competition I was in.

So the morning of Nov. 1, I did what I hadn't done in nearly a decade; I shaved my face clean. It was the first time since 2001 that my chin had seen unfiltered sunlight. It took me almost three days to recognize myself in the mirror, and I couldn't stop touching my newly naked face.

What really surprised me was the reaction from my friends. I posted a picture of my baby face on Facebook, and it had nearly 50 comments in about two hours. Friends stopped dead in their tracks when they saw me, unable to believe what their eyes were showing them. Those who could muster a few words stuttered so badly you'd think I was sporting a bullet wound rather than a clean shave.

This reaction got me thinking about my facial hair and how much it was tied to my personality. I was a beard person, through and through. I have grown everything from mutton chops to goatees and my current

bushy beard. But were there others out there like me?

I decided to start my investigation locally, heading to the one place where beards aren't looked down on: the barber shop.

My search brought me to Mickey's Barber Shop, a small establishment just off Whyte Ave. It's a little place barely wide enough for the two upholstered barber chairs where the owner, Naif Moustafa, works his magic. On the wall beside the mirror is a sign that says "Cash Only" and again by the till, making the message clear.

"I'm the only academic that works on (beard history) ... No one touches it. It doesn't seem worthy of being an academic subject."

Dr. Christopher Oldstone-Moore

The world's foremost expert on beards, Wright State University

When I walk in, Moustafa is furiously snipping away at a young man's hair. As he'll later tell me, his clientele looking to have their beards trimmed are usually younger and come in about once per month. These are my people — those serious about their facial hair. I've found my home.

Moustafa finishes up with his client and sits down to talk beards. He's been cutting hair and styling beards for 25 years, starting at the age of 14 in the Bekaa Valley in his native Lebanon. By 15 he was doing straight-razor shaves. He still does straight-razor shaves here in Edmonton, usually for his

younger clients.

"Mostly the people they have a beard and they style it, they're young," Moustafa says. "They don't like the full beard."

But there have been some changes in attitude towards facial hair since Moustafa got his start. While his clients now look for a well-groomed look and short hair, it used to be that long hair and full beards dominated. And in Lebanon, he saw a lot more moustaches. Stubble, the red-headed stepchild of the facial hair world, is also popular these days. Moustafa sees a lot of customers with

stubble, those who are stuck between shaving and growing. Stubble is the Switzerland of the follicular world.

And the barber himself? He's got a solid growth coming in. He met his wife with a full bushy beard, and she loves it.

"I like it. I used to have my beard for 17 years. The reason I shave it is it's all grey."

So I've got the local experience on beards from a facial-hair guru, but I need to widen my scope. There must be someone out there able to give me a broader historical account of facial hair and its importance. I love history, I love beards; there must be someone else who

has put these two things together.

Of course there is, and I find him on the internet. But don't let that demean his status as the world's "foremost expert on beards." At least, that's what current affairs magazine *Mother Jones* called him; it's difficult to tell if they were being facetious.

Dr. Christopher Oldstone-Moore is a history professor at Wright State University in Ohio. He's also one of the few academics to look at patterns of facial hair and try to gauge their meaning.

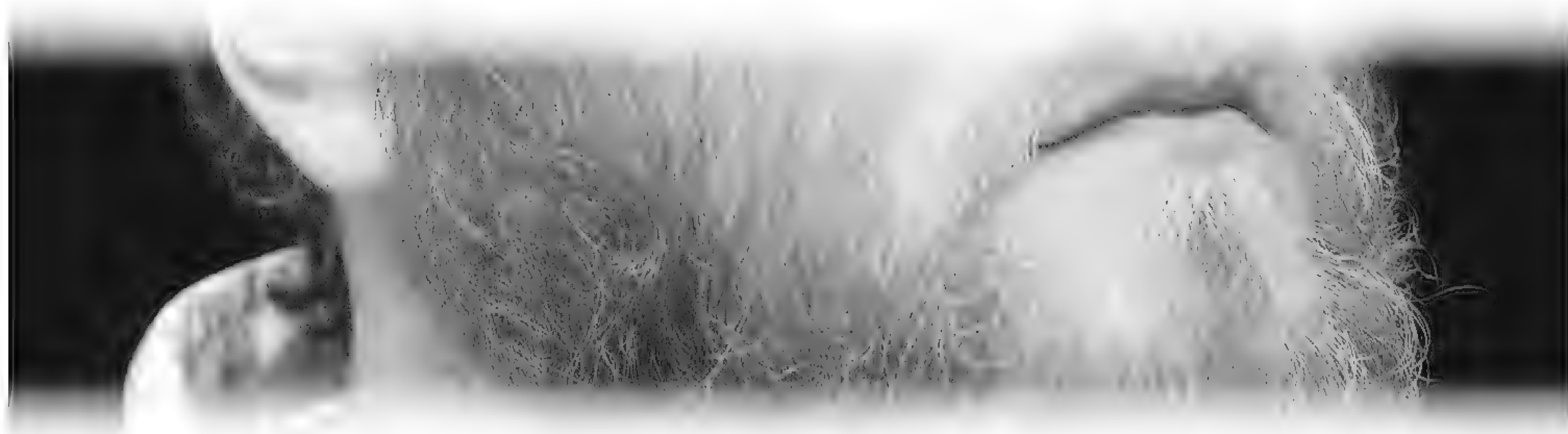
Because of the distance, he agrees to discuss beards over Skype. And how can I argue with that? As an expert, I figure this guy must have some ridiculous ZZ Top style growth going on. The video feed comes up and Oldstone-Moore is clean shaven. I suddenly know how lab monkeys feel. But his knowledge belies his clean shave.

"How does one become the foremost expert on beards?" I ask him.

"I think it's because I'm the only academic that works on it. What's out there in terms of beard lore and beard theory, it's all very disconnected and anecdotes and nobody has tried to put it together.

"I'm an historian, so I got into it. No one touches it. It doesn't seem worthy of being an academic subject."

He's so enthused he's writing a book for general audiences, called *A Brave Face*. Oldstone-Moore explains the different attitudes people have had about beards throughout the years. Initially, of course having a beard was the natural default.



Shaving was popularized by Alexander the Great because he wanted to look like the images he saw of Heracles, who artists had depicted as clean-shaven: eternally young. The trend caught on, and his soldiers started shaving too.

Attitudes changed throughout the millennia. In the Middle Ages, a split developed between men of the Church and the secular nobility. Churchmen shaved, while knights grew out masculine beards. Then in the 15th century, some of the nobility wanted to shave to seem more devout, while some priests and bishops started to grow beards. What a topsy-turvy world we live in.

Fast-forward to the 19th century, and everything changed again. Suddenly everyone was growing beards again.

“In that case, you have a redefinition of masculinity and a democratic industrial age and what I think men were hoping to do was to hold on to a little bit of the old style of masculinity that recaptured the patriarch of a past.”

Now, Oldstone-Moore says the default has reverted to shaving. So when someone grows out a beard, it’s an effort to show their independence — that they aren’t part of the standardized corporate look.

“You don’t have to follow those rules. It’s no surprise that musicians might adopt a beard because that’s the kind of man they are.”

It’s a dizzying amount of history to take in, even for a history major. But what about his lack of beard? How can a beard expert not have a beard?

“I go in and out. I think one of the big factors is how women in your life think of it. When I married my wife, I was clean shaven. Women like whatever it is when you get together.”

Okay, I can buy that.

So beards are tied to independence and masculinity. I need to talk to someone both masculine and independent. Who has those sort of credentials...?

Athletes.

And who has a more famous beard on the U of A campus than former Bears Volleyball superstar “The Bearded Menace,” Joel Schmuland. He grew a beard in the 2008-2009 season so big, Bears mascot Guba imitated it for a game. You know you’ve made it big when mascots start to imitate you.

Why the big growth?

“It all started shortly after the end of the season the year before (07-08),” says Schmuland over email from France, where he’s now playing for a club team. “We had just won at nationals so we were all on cloud nine and one evening, over a few drinks I’m sure, one of the graduating players brought up the fact that we were hosting nationals the following year and as such we got an automatic berth into the nationals tournament. This obviously meant that we had effectively made playoffs from the start of the season and therefore should have to start our playoff growth then.”

So to take on the drunken challenge, Schmuland started his playoff beard six months early. It got so big that he would accidentally bite into it while eating sandwiches and he spent more money on shampoo for his beard than for his hair.

The bushy beard changed his outlook on facial hair. He now knows what he would look like with a mass of hair hanging off his chin and no longer has to face the burning question, “Do I look good in a beard?”

“I also look at people who have a big beard differently,” Schmuland says. “When I look at them now I think, ‘I’ve done that.’ It does make you take notice of the different types of beards.”

What Schmuland says is true for pretty much anyone with a beard. Once you start growing one, you sit up and take notice of all the facial growth happening around you. In a way, it’s a ticket to to an exclusive club, one where the bonds are follicular rather than patrimonial or societal.

I’ve done the same thing, taking notice when I see an especially well-groomed chin. My own beard has changed over time. I tried growing a goatee in high school, but failed horribly. Then suddenly, at the age of 18, I could grow a massive beard. Ever since then, it’s been a love affair without end.

If only Alexander the Great hadn’t decided to adopt the baby-face look, maybe my fascination with facial hair would be the norm. That’s a world I’d want to live in.

CONTEST

You too can experience what it’s like to have a beard by using this handy cut-out paper Bell-beard.

And we here at *The Gateway* love prizes just as much as we love beards. Cut out this beard, put it on your face and post a pic to:

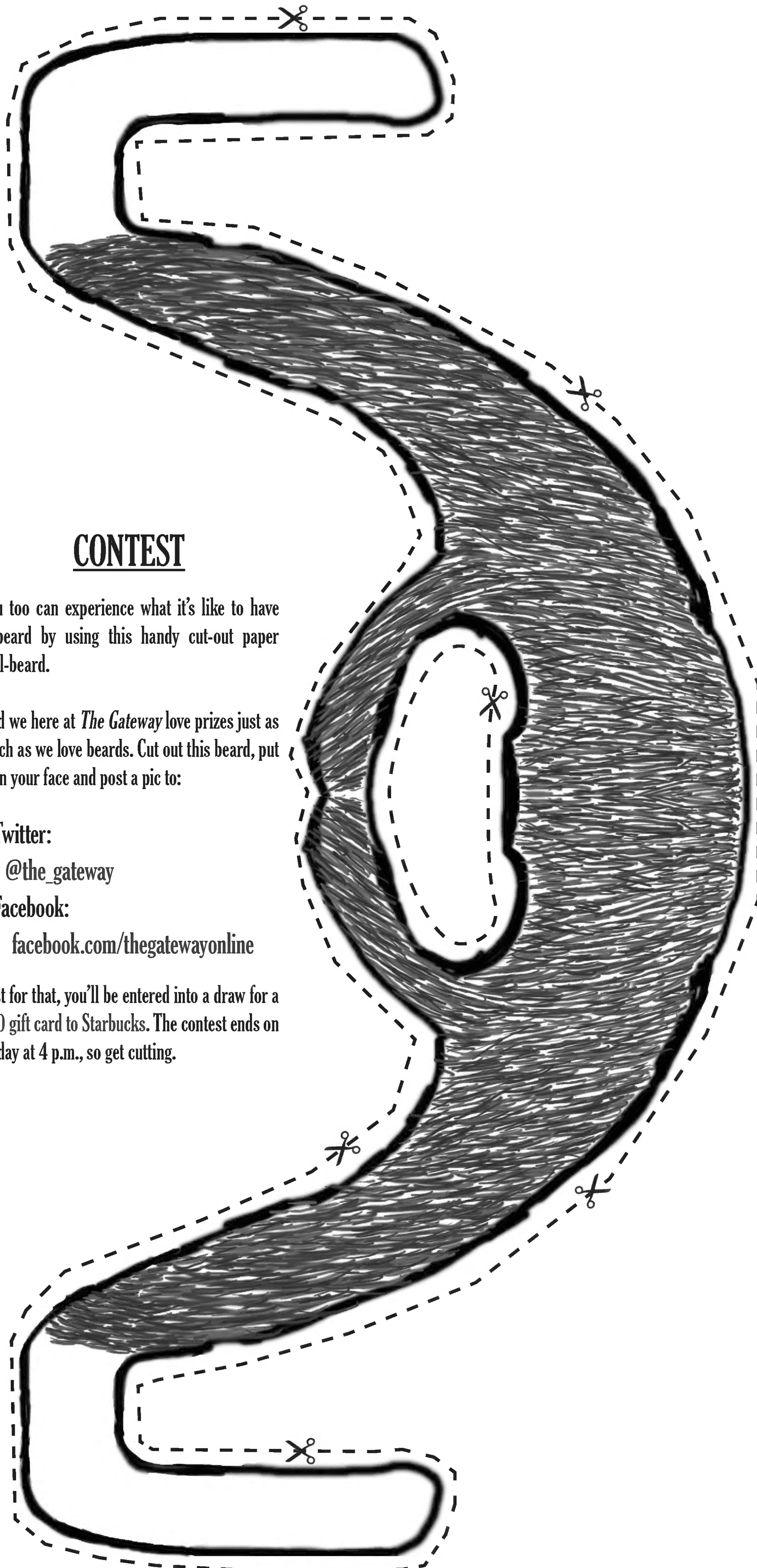
Twitter:

@the_gateway

Facebook:

facebook.com/thegatewayonline

Just for that, you’ll be entered into a draw for a \$20 gift card to Starbucks. The contest ends on Friday at 4 p.m., so get cutting.



Diversions

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WHALE AND DIVER by Andrew Cowie



LIFE LESSONS by Kirsty Vogelesang



DISGRUNTLED ARTS PROFESSOR ON THE NON-PHONE by Kathryn Dutchak



TALES FROM WALES by Ryan Bromsgrove



crossword

Puzzle provided by BestCrosswords.com
Used with permission.

Across

- 1. Gyro meat
- 5. Ethereal
- 9. Forearm bone
- 13. Culture medium
- 14. Loose outer garment
- 16. Animated character
- 17. Hindu princess
- 18. Antiknock fluid
- 19. ... ____ saw Elba
- 20. Draft picks
- 21. Anonymous John
- 22. "Gunsmoke" star
- 24. Lean
- 26. School orgs.
- 27. Salsa singer Cruz
- 29. Celebration
- 33. Renaissance fiddle
- 34. Bric-a- ____
- 35. Actor Rob
- 36. Fingers
- 37. Small moneybag
- 38. Charge carrier
- 39. Capital of Calvados, in NW France
- 41. Ashtabula's lake
- 42. Small nails
- 44. Embellishment
- 46. Actress Anouk
- 47. Describes a gently cooked steak
- 48. Nightclub of song
- 49. Go hungry

- 52. Needlefish
- 53. Skater Lipinski
- 57. Opera set in Egypt
- 58. Hagar the Horrible's dog
- 60. Corrida cheers
- 61. Annoying buzzer
- 62. Capital city of Yemen
- 63. Narrow inlets
- 64. ____ sow, so shall...
- 65. Devices for fishing
- 66. Aggregate of fibers

Down

- 1. Dr. Zhivago's love
- 2. I've Got ____ in Kalamazoo
- 3. Horse hair
- 4. Stiff coarse hair
- 5. Apathy
- 6. John of England
- 7. Architect Mies van der ____
- 8. Hurrah!
- 9. Kitchen vessel
- 10. Anecdotal knowledge
- 11. Denials
- 12. Black cuckoos
- 15. Casual gathering
- 23. Deserter
- 25. Sot's sound
- 26. Freedom from war
- 27. Aromatic wood
- 28. "Barnaby Jones" star
- 29. Edible plant product
- 30. Communication medium
- 31. Came to

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13					14				15		16		
17					18						19		
20					21				22	23			
			24	25				26					
		27	28					29				30	31
33						34					35		
36					37						38		
39			40		41					42	43		
44					45				46				
			47					48					
49	50	51					52				53	54	55
57					58	59					60		
61					62						63		
64						65					66		

32. Contact, e.g.

33. Puerto ____

34. Carried

37. Noblewoman

40. Give an account

42. Apex
43. Expressive of love

45. Dallas player, briefly

46. Main arteries

48. 200 milligrams

49. Heroic adventure tale

50. Sardine containers
51. An apple ____ ..

52. Basic unit of heredity

54. Et ____

55. Back

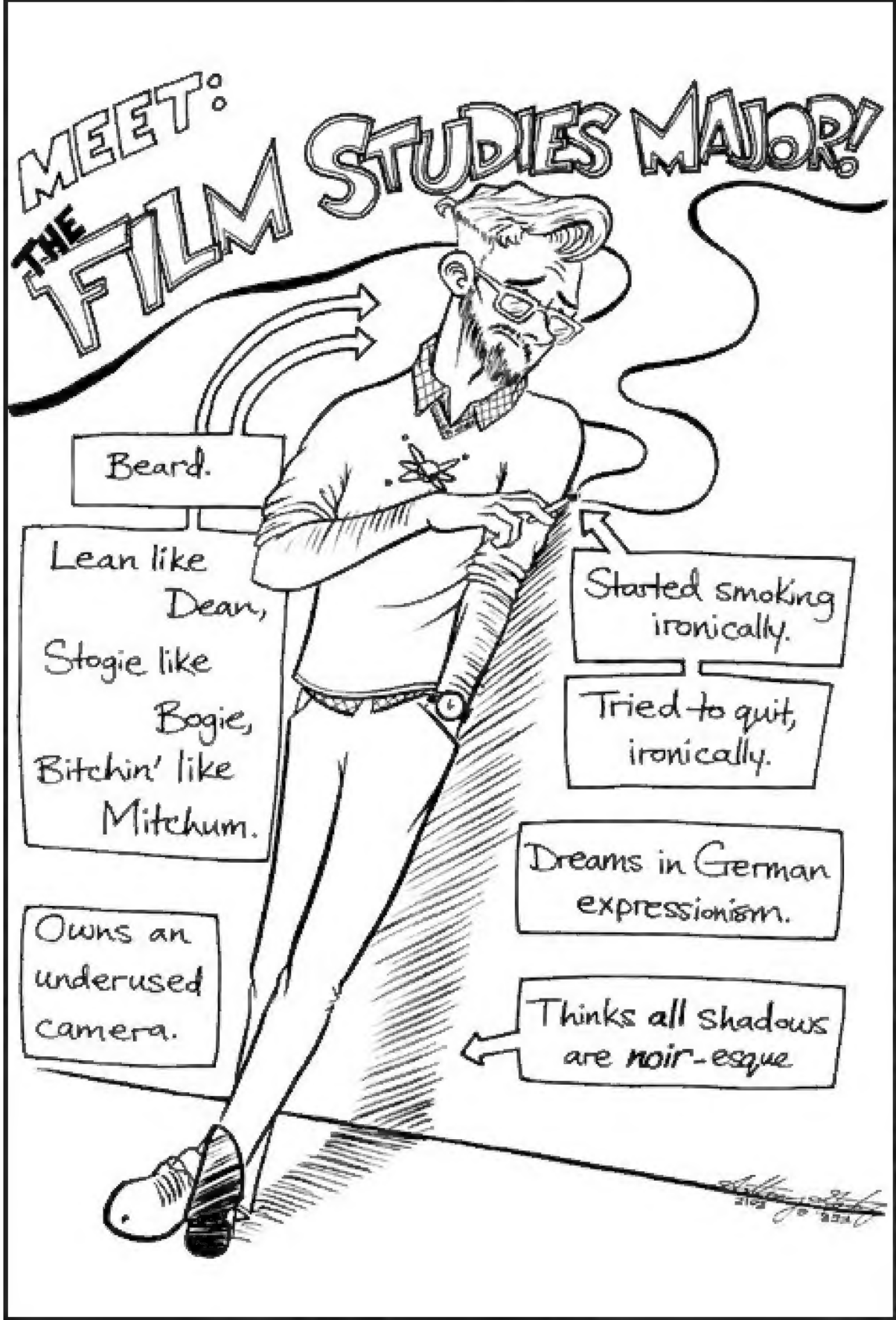
56. Org.

59. A Bobbsey twin

THE ADVENTURES OF RORY TIGHE by Gateway Staff



STEREOTYPES by Anthony Goertz



sudoku

					5	9
	7		5	6		
1					4	
	8	3	5		2	
			6	7		
		5		9	1	8
		2				5
			3	4		
6	3					

CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, please go to www.gatewayclassifieds.ca

FOR SALE

Medical School Interview Workbook. Available at the U of A Bookstore.

FOR RENT

Garneau Mews 83rd Ave and 112St Heated underground parking stall \$100/month Leo 780-299-0396.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Volunteer to teach ESL to adult newcomers at CCI-LEX, downtown. Classroom teaching, 2-3h/wk. Teaching materials provided. Gain teaching experience and meet people from around the world. Contact Diana at lexprogram@cci-lex.ca.

WANTED

Cash For Broken Laptops! I will pick it up now! Please send the make & model # underneath, your contact name and number to happyappyca@gmail.com.

CHILDISH RANTING

How dare you RATT! You changed the burger and beer deal on Mondays from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. That's bullshit! You used to be cool.

A shout-out to Dean of Students Frank Robinson for scoring a legendary high score on this year's Purity Test!

BECAUSE IT'S TOO MUCH FUN FOR ONE DAY...

Monday Funday

\$3 DRINKS

- AND -

\$4 SHOTS

ALL DAY LONG!

FT. DJ J-ROC

POW!!

LAUNCHING
FEBRUARY

20

FREE
HUGS

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